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Vascular Plant Identification Guide



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VASCULAR PLANT IDENTIFICATION GUIDE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

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INTRODUCTION

This book is primarily a visual and descriptive guide to vascular plant species commonly found on the Chugach National Forest. This book is intended for all users, not just botanists, and as such, technical terminology has been avoided whenever possible. For more comprehensive descriptions and keys to the plants we suggest Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories: A Manual of the Vascular Plants (Hultén, 1968).

An earlier version of this guide was entitled Forest Plant Identification Guide: Chugach National Forest (Borchers and Wertheim 1992) and featured 194 taxa. We have revised the earlier guide by expanding the scope to include plants predominately found in non–forest settings and other forest species found to be common on the National Forest. A total of 284 taxa are included.

Included are woody species occurring on five or more of 2300 sample sites; forbs, ferns, and fern allies occurring on 10 or more of the sites; and graminoids (grass and grass–like plants) occurring on 20 or more of the sites. Also included are less common species if they are used in the names or descriptions of community types in DeVelice et al. (1999).

This guide is organized by life forms: trees; shrubs; forbs; graminoids; and ferns and fern allies. Names are organized alphabetically by genus and species within each life form. Descriptions are presented in the following format:

GENUS AND SPECIES SPECIES CODE

COMMON NAME FAMILY

HABIT: Size range and general appearance of the species.

KEY CHARACTERS: Description of the species.

HABITAT: Description of the most frequently occupied habitat.

Scientific nomenclature follows Hultén (1968). Common names are from various sources. Species codes are as provided in the PLANTS database (USDA, NRCS 1999). For 58 species, the PLANTS database provides revised scientific nomenclature from that in Hultén. A crosswalk table listing these revisions (based on a February 5, 2001 download from the PLANTS database) is in the Appendices.

Also included are summary tables, located in the Appendices, of major characteristics of genera that contain a number of species that are often confused. A Glossary is located in the Appendices that will help the user become acquainted with terms.

TREES

Betula kenaica Kenai birch BEKE2 Betulaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 20-80 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, doubly toothed, short-pointed with hairs above. Twigs with reddish hairs and resin dots when young. Inflorescence a short, narrow, dark brown catkin. Fruit cone-like, 1 inch long, upright or spreading. Bark dark brown and papery.

HABITAT: Subalpine, in alder belt.



Betula papyrifera paper birch

BEPA Betulaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 20-80 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed, long-pointed, hairless above. Twigs with many resin dots. Inflorescence a short, thick, greenish-brown catkin. Fruit conelike, hairless, 1–1% inches long, hanging down or spreading. Bark white and papery.

HABITAT: Low elevation to treeline. Prefers warm slopes with moist porous soils, also common on cold north slopes and poorly drained lowlands. Common pioneer after burns. In pure stands or with white or black spruce.



Chamaecyparis nootkatensis CHNO
Alaska yellow cedar Cupressaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 40-80 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves yellowgreen, scale-like, pointed, and spreading. Leafy twigs four-angled. Branches droop. Cones small, round, with 4–6 scales. Wood with "potato-like" odor.

HABITAT: Scattered in small groups in coastal forest from sea level to treeline but best developed below 1200 feet. In pure stands or with birch.



Picea glauca white spruce

PIGL Pinaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 35-85 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles ½-¾ inches long, four-angled, pointed, with white lines on all sides. Twigs hairless, with needles massing on top near the ends. Needles and twigs with skunk-like odor. Cones 1½-2½ inches long, deciduous, cylindrical, nearly stalkless, with thin, round, smooth, flexible scales. Inner bark white.

HABITAT: Sea level to treeline. Prefers river bottoms, sandy lakeshores, and well-drained gentle south slopes.



Picea X lutzii Lutz spruce PILU Pinaceae

A natural hybrid between white spruce and Sitka spruce, with most characteristics intermediate between the two species.

HABIT: Evergreen, 55-100 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles slightly four–angled with white upper surface. Cones scales short and toothed.

Picea mariana black spruce PIMA Pinaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 15-30 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles short, squarish in cross-section, with white lines on all sides. Twigs red hairy. Cones 1 inch long, rounded, dark, remaining on tree several years. Inner bark yellow.

HABITAT: Muskegs, wet meadows, lakeshores.



Picea sitchensis Sitka spruce PISI Pinaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 80-150 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles ¾—1 inch long, flattened, keeled underneath, sharp pointed, white above. Twigs hairless. Cones 2–3½ inches long, cylindric—oblong, with long, thin, stiff, rounded, and toothed scales. Inner bark white with brown dots.

HABITAT: Chiefly below 1500 feet, but up to 3000 feet. In pure stands or with hemlock or cottonwood.



Populus balsamifera subsp. balsamifera balsam poplar

POBAB2 Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 30-45 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, pale and rusty brown underneath, with small rounded teeth. Winter buds 1 inch long, sticky, pointed, odorous. Inflorescence a 2–3½ inch long, drooping catkin. Fruit hairless 2–parted capsules on 6 inch long catkins. Bark thick, grey, deeply furrowed.

HABITAT: River valleys, lakeshores, alluvial flats.



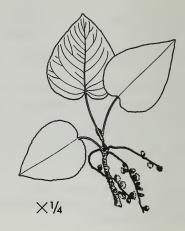
Populus balsamifera subsp. trichocarpa black cottonwood

POBAT Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 80-100 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, pale and rusty brown underneath, with small rounded teeth. Winter buds ¾ inches long, sticky, pointed. Inflorescence a 1½–3 inch long drooping catkin. Fruit 3–parted capsules with white hairs, on 6 inch long catkins. Bark thick, grey, deeply furrowed.

HABITAT: Open forests, river bottoms.



Populus tremuloides quaking aspen

POTR5 Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 20-40 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves with flat petiole and small rounded teeth. Inflorescence 1– 2½ inch long drooping catkin. Fruit 2–parted capsules on 4 inch long catkins. Bark smooth, pale, yellowishgreen.

HABITAT: Open forests, streambanks, south slopes. Common pioneer after burns.



Salix scouleriana Scouler willow SASC Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, 30-60 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, red pubescent underneath, crowded at ends of twigs. Buds red, without bud scales. Fruit woolly capsules on 2 inch long, stalkless catkins. Bark grey and smooth.

HABITAT: Forests, muskegs, burned areas.



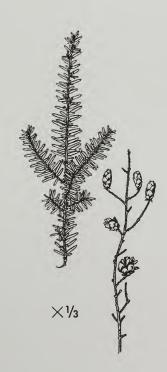
Tsuga heterophylla western hemlock

TSHE Pinaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 100-120 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles in 2 rows on twigs, flattened, white underneath. Leading branch at top of tree droops. Cones ¾—1 inch long. Inner bark red. Bark reddish-brown.

HABITAT: Sea level to subalpine, below mountain hemlock zone. Prefers moist flats and low slopes. In stands with Sitka spruce and mountain hemlock.



Tsuga mertensiana mountain hemlock

TSME Pinaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 50–100 feet. Sometimes 10 feet tall or less in musegs and at upper treeline.

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles on all sides of twigs, keeled, curved, white on both sides. Leading branch at top of tree droops. Cones 1–3 inches long. Bark gray to darkbrown.

HABITAT: Sea level to 3500 feet, extending higher than western hemlock. Muskegs and mountain slopes.



SHRUBS

Alnus crispa subsp. sinuata Sitka alder

ALCRS Betulaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, ascending, many-stemmed shrub, 5–25 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, doubly toothed, shiny, sticky when young, with pointy lobes. Stems usually curved. Inflorescence a 3–5 inch catkin. Fruit conelike on stalks longer than ¼ inch.

HABITAT: Sea level to alpine. Streambanks, disturbed areas, shorelines, slopes, avalanche shoots.



Alnus incana subsp. tenuifolia thinleaf alder

ALINT Betulaceae

HABIT: Deciduous large shrub or small tree, 15–30 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, doubly toothed, with rounded lobes, often with reddish color. Inflorescence a narrow, 1½–3 inch long catkin. Fruit cone-like on stalks shorter than ¼ inch.

HABITAT: Open forests, streambanks.



Amelanchier spp. serviceberry

AMELA Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous low shrub to small tree, 1–15 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, nearly round, with teeth toward tip. Flowers white, fragrant. Fruits apple-like, round, purplish-black, less than ¾ inch in diameter.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows.



Andromeda polifolia bog rosemary

ANPO Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, creeping shrub with ascending branches, Up to 1 foot (usually shorter).

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, whitish underneath, edges rolled under, thick, with sunken veins above. Flowers pink, in terminal inflorescences, nodding. Fruit ¼ inch diameter, round, 5-parted capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs.



Arctostaphylos alpina alpine bearberry

ARAL2 Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous prostrate shrub, 2–4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, whitish underneath, toothed, thick, distinctly veined, with hairy edges. Flowers white, few, terminal, nodding. Fruit round, black berries.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra.



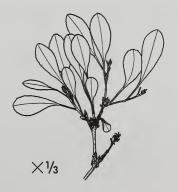
Arctostaphylos rubra red bearberry

ARRU Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous prostrate shrub, to 6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, whitish underneath, toothed, thin, distinctly veined, without hairy edges. Flowers white, few, terminal, nodding. Fruit round, red berries.

HABITAT: Spruce forests, muskegs.



Arctostaphylos uva–ursi kinnikinnick

ARUV Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen prostrate shrub, 3–4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, spatula–shaped, leathery, distinctly veined. Flowers white to pink, in few–flowered terminal inflorescences. Fruit dry, red berries.

HABITAT: Open spruce forests, dry sandy places with aspen.



Betula glandulosa/nana dwarf birches

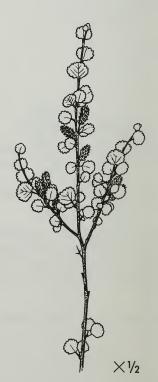
BETUL Betulaceae

Betula glandulosa and B. nana hybridize extensively with each other, making identification difficult. The dwarf birches also hybridize with the tree birches.

HABIT: Deciduous low spreading to upright shrub, 1–5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, less than 1 inch long, thick, hairless, with rounded teeth. Twigs covered with resin dots. Inflorescence a catkin. Fruits conelike.

HABITAT: Muskegs, swamps, wet areas, rocky alpine slopes, tundra.



Cassiope mertensiana Mertens cassiope CAME7 Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen mat-forming shrub, 2–12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, in 4 rows, ½ inch long, scale-like, completely covering stem. Flowers white to pink, several per stem, solitary, from leaf bases. Fruit ½ inch diameter, round, upright capsules.

HABITAT: To 3900 feet. Mountain meadows, slopes adjacent to snowfields.



Cassiope stelleriana Steller's cassiope

CAST33 Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, mat-forming shrub, 2–4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, spreading, ¼ inch long, needle-like. Flowers white to pinkish, 1 per stem, terminal. Fruit ¼ inch diameter, round, upright capsules.

HABITAT: To 6000 feet. Forests near treeline, heaths, snow depressions, protected slopes.



Cassiope tetragona four-angled cassiope

CATE11 Ericaceae

HABIT: Dwarf shrub.

KEY CHARACTERS: Coarse, dark green, leaves in 4 rows, lance-shaped, deeply grooved and slightly hairy. Bell-shaped corolla.

HABITAT: Dry heaths and rocks on tundra or in the mountains, to at least 6500 feet. Common in the North.



Cladothamnus pyrolaeflorus CLPY3 copperbush Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous upright shrub, 1½–4½ feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves whorled, in clusters, light green above, white underneath, with pointed tip and nearly no petiole. Flowers copper colored, few, terminal, with long, curved style. Fruit 1/4—1/4 inch diameter round capsules.

HABITAT: At and above treeline, and cold sites at lower elevations. Open forests, meadows, streambanks, openings. Generally with Mountain hemlock.



Diapensia lapponica diapensia

DILA Diapensiaceae

HABIT: Evergreen prostrate shrub, 1–3 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, thick, fleshy, crowded and overlapping, with one vein. Flowers white, ¾ inch across, solitary, upright. Fruit ½ inch diameter, eggshaped, upright capsules.

HABITAT: Rocky alpine areas.



Dryas octopetala white mountain-avens

DROC Rosaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, decumbent or mat-forming shrub, 1–5 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, shiny green above, white woolly and with scales and hairs on midvein underneath, edges rolled under, with rounded teeth and sunken veins. Flowers white, solitary, on long, leafless stalks, stalks woolly, sepals with long, dark glands. Fruit nutlets with long plumes.

HABITAT: Forests, heaths, tundra.



Echinopanax horridum devil's club

ECHO2 Araliaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, with few long, prickly, decumbent branches, 2–10 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–2 feet long, 5–7 lobed, spiny. Branches with stout prickles. Flowers in terminal spike. Fruit red berries.

HABITAT: Moist forests, under alder, on good Sitka spruce sites, in subalpine with mountain hemlock.





Empetrum nigrum crowberry

EMNI Empetraceae

HABIT: Evergreen, mat-forming shrub, 3–6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 4 in a whorl or alternate, needle-like, with white groove underneath. Flowers inconspicuous. Fruits berry-like, black.

HABITAT: Sea level to alpine. Forests, muskegs, rocky alpine slopes.



Juniperus communis common juniper

JUCO6 Cupressaceae

HABIT: Evergreen spreading shrub, 1–2 feet

KEY CHARACTERS: Needles in whorls of 3, spreading at right angle from twig, with white band above. Cones berry-like, green ripening to black.

HABITAT: Dry slopes.



Ledum palustre subsp. decumbens narrow-leaf Labrador-tea

LEPAD Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen low shrub, 1-2 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, shorter than 1 inch, less than 1/8 inch wide, with edges rolled under and reddish-brown woolly hairs underneath. Flowers white, ½ inch across, in terminal clusters, with 10 stamens. Flower stalks with short white hairs. Fruit ½—¼ inch long, oval capsules.

HABITAT: To 5400 feet. Black spruce forests, heaths, muskegs.



Ledum palustre subsp. groenlandicum Greenland Labrador-tea

LEPAG Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen low shrub, to 3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–2 inches long, greater than ¼ inch wide, fragrant, with edges rolled under and reddish-brown woolly hairs underneath. Flowers white, ¾ inch across, in terminal clusters, fragrant, with 8 stamens. Flower stalks with reddish hairs. Fruit ¼ inch long capsules.

HABITAT: Black spruce forests, birch forests, with white spruce near treeline, muskegs.



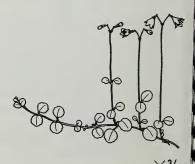
Linnaea borealis twinflower

LIBO3 Caprifoliaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, creeping, 1-4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, roundish, leathery, with 1–3 teeth on each side. Flowers white to rose, fragrant, nodding, in terminal pairs on upright stems. Fruits hairy.

HABITAT: Forests, heaths.



Loiseleuria procumbens alpine azalea

LOPR Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen mat forming much branched shrub, 1–2 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, white underneath, edges rolled under, leathery. Flowers pink, ¼ inch across, terminal, upright. Fruit ¼ inch diameter, round, upright, 2–3 parted capsules.

HABITAT: Well-drained acidic alpine tundra.



Luetkea pectinata

LUPE Rosaceae

HABIT: Creeping shrub with upright leafy stems, 2–6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves crowded at base of stems, alternate along stem, fanshaped, with many narrow divisions. Flowers white, in terminal cluster. Fruit pod-like.

HABITAT: Forests near treeline, alpine and subalpine meadows near snow.



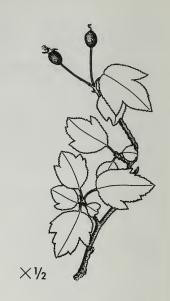
Malus fusca
Oregon crab apple

MAFU Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous large shrub or small tree with several thorny stems, to 25 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed, pale and hairy underneath, often with 3 lobes. White or pink, few-flowered inflorescences. Fruits apple-like, yellow or red.

HABITAT: Moist forests, meadows, streambanks, beach forests.



Menziesia ferruginea rusty menziesia

MEFE Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading to upright shrub. 3–10 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, gray-green with brown hairs above, white with sticky hairs underneath. Twigs with odor when crushed. Flowers yellowish-red, several, terminal. Fruit ¼ inch long 4-parted capsules, persistent through winter.

HABITAT: Moist forests, openings, under spruce-hemlock and spruce-birch.



Myrica gale sweetgale

MYGA Myricaceae

HABIT: Deciduous low shrub, 1-4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed toward tip, with yellow waxy glands and gray-green pubescence. Twigs with yellow resin dots. Flowers yellowish, inconspicuous, blooming before leaves appear. Fruit small, waxy, 2-winged, green nutlets.

HABITAT: Coastal meadows, muskegs, swamps, shallow water, tidal flats.



Oxycoccus microcarpus bog cranberry

OXMI3 Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen creeping vine-like shrub, 1–3 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1/2-1/2 inch long, dark green above, white underneath, with edges rolled under. Twigs very slender. Flowers pink, solitary, on long, leafless stalks, nodding, with petals bent backward. Fruit red berries.

HABITAT: Muskegs, alpine meadows.



Phyllodoce aleutica PHAL4
Aleutian mountain heath Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen mat-forming shrub, 2–6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves crowded on upper 2–4 inches of stem, needle-like, toothed, with a pale groove and hairs underneath. Twigs with peg-like leaf scars. Flowers yellowish, several, terminal, may have glandular hairs. Fruit ¾ inch long, oval, 5–parted capsules.

HABITAT: Sea level to alpine. Moraines and outwash at sea level, heaths, protected slopes adjacent to snow fields.



Potentilla fruticosa shrubby cinquefoil

POFR4 Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading to upright much-branched shrub, 1–4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with 3–7 leaflets, green above, grayish and silvery hairy underneath. Flowers yellow, ¾–1¼ inches across, upright, solitary, from leaf bases or in terminal clusters. Fruit white-haired achenes.

HABITAT: To 4500 feet. Forests, muskegs, wet soil, rocky slopes.



Ribes bracteosum stink currant

RIBR Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous ascending or upright shrub, 3–6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 5–7 lobed, singly or doubly toothed. Skunky odor to plant. Flowers white, greenish, or purplish, with hairy and glandular ovary. Racemes upright, 3–12 inches long. Fruit glandular, disagreeable-tasting, black berries.

HABITAT: Forests, streambanks, with alder in spruce-hemlock forests.



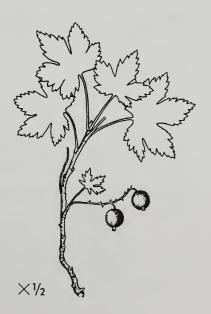
Ribes glandulosum

RIGL Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, ascending shrub.

KEY CHARACTERS: Smooth, deeply heart-shaped leaves, 5–7 lobed, sharp-pointed, doubly serrate. Whitish or pink flowers. Red fruit, with the odor of skunk.

HABITAT: Woods, rocky slopes in the low-lands.



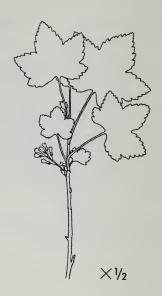
Ribes hudsonianum northern black currant

RIHU Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous upright shrub, 3-6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 3–5 lobed, toothed. Flowers white with yellow-dotted ovary. Racemes ascending or spreading, 1–2½ inches long. Fruit smooth or glandular, bitter but edible black berries, with bloom.

HABITAT: Moist forests, streambanks, at treeline with alder, with spruce, birch, and aspen.



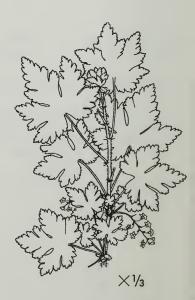
Ribes lacustre bristly black currant

RILA Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading to upright spiny shrub, 2–4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with 3–5 lobes, the lobes again lobed or toothed. Twigs spiny. Flowers pink, spreading or drooping racemes. Fruit palatable dark purple berries with gland-tipped hairs.

HABITAT: Moist forests, streambanks, with white spruce and Sitka spruce.



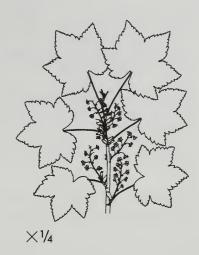
Ribes laxiflorum trailing black currant

RILA3 Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous decumbent to upright shrub, sometimes vine-like, to 2 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, blades 2½–3 inches-long, doubly toothed, with 5 lobes. Flowers red to purplish, ovary with hairs and stalked glands, sepals hairy on back. Racemes ascending or upright, 4–6 inches long, with 6–20 flowers. Fruit foul smelling, edible, purplish-black berries, with bloom and stalked glands.

HABITAT: Moist forests, open meadows, wet areas, spruce-hemlock forests.



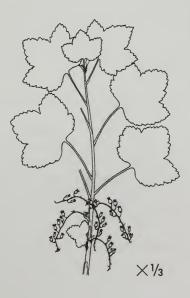
Ribes triste northern red currant

RITR Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Deciduous prostrate to erect shrub, 2–3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with 3–5 lobes, toothed. Flowers purple, with smooth ovary. Racemes 2–4 inches long. Fruit ovoid, smooth, palatable, bright red, translucent berries.

HABITAT: Lowlands to treeline. Spruce forests, streambanks, wet meadows.



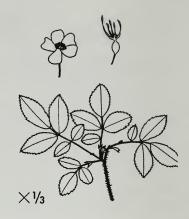
Rosa acicularis prickly rose

ROAC Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous much-branched spiny shrub, 1-4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed, with 3–7 leaflets. Twigs and branches with prickles and spines. Flowers rose to pink, 1½–2¼ inches across, usually solitary, terminal. Fruit dark red to purplish hips.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, thickets, muskegs, with aspen on burns.



Rubus idaeus raspberry

RUID Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous upright prickly biennial shrub, 2–4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, whitish underneath, toothed, with 3–5 leaflets. Twigs and branches with prickles. Flowers white, ½ inch across, 1–4 in raceme, with sepals bent backward. Fruit red, ¾ inch long.

HABITAT: Forests, thickets.



Rubus spectabilis salmonberry

RUSP Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous upright somewhat prickly biennial shrub, 2–7 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, usually with 3 leaflets, the leaflets toothed to nearly lobed. Flowers pink, 1½ inches across, solitary or 2. Fruit red or yellow, 1 inch long.

HABITAT: To lower alpine. Moist forests, streambanks, avalanche chutes, sideslopes, and ravines.



Salix alaxensis feltleaf willow

SAAL Salicaceae

HABIT: Shrub or small tree, up to 20-25 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Young twigs woolly. Leaves tear-shaped with dense white felt beneath. Stout, erect catkins.

HABITAT: Common along creeks and rivers, to at least 6000 feet.



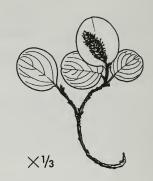
Salix arctica arctic willow

SAAR4 Salicaceae

HABIT: Dwarf shrub.

KEY CHARACTERS: Thick, smooth branches. Leaves ovate, entire, dark green above, paler beneath, slightly hairy when young but later smooth. Catkins about 1 inch long.

HABITAT: Dry tundra, mostly in mountains.



Salix barclayi Barclay willow SABA3 Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous shrub, 6-9 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, white underneath, often toothed, turning black when dry. Buds without bud scales. Inflorescence a catkin. Fruit hairless capsules.

HABITAT: Forest openings, streambanks, wet areas, alpine and subalpine slopes.



Salix commutata undergreen willow

SACO2 Salicaceae

HABIT: Shrub up to 6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Dense gray hair on young twigs. Leaves elliptical, pointed at tips, with dense gray hair on both sides when young, becoming smooth with age.

HABITAT: Alpine meadows and wet areas.



Salix depressa subsp. rostrata Bebb willow

SADER Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous large shrub or small tree, to 30 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–3½ inches long, dull gray above and gray or whitish underneath, pointed at base, nearly toothless, with hairs on both sides. Twigs leave branches nearly at right angles. Buds with no bud scales. Inflorescences 1–3 inch long catkins with short, leafy stalks appearing before or with the leaves. Fruit hairy capsules on ½–¾6 inch long stalks.

HABITAT: To subalpine. Dry areas in forests.



Salix hookeriana Hooker willow SAHO Salicaceae

Not in Hultén (1968). See Welch (1974).

HABIT: Deciduous shrub, 2-15 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, hairy on both surfaces, branches very brittle. Inflorescence a catkin.

HABITAT: Stabilized sand dunes, wet meadows near the coast, beach ridges.

Salix myrtillifolia low blueberry willow

SAMY Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous low shrub, to 3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, green on both surfaces, often drying brownish.

HABITAT: Muskegs, fens, wet lake margins and river banks.



Salix pulchra tealeaf willow

SAPU15 Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous shrub, to 6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, green above, whitish below. Previous years leaves often persisting as brown, withered remains.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, coniferous woodlands, shrub thickets along streams and lakes.



Salix reticulata netleaf willow SARE2 Salicaceae

HABIT: Deciduous prostrate shrub, 2–3 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, dark green, leathery, distinctly net-veined, with edges rolled under. Inflorescence an upright catkin, to 2 inches long. Fruit capsules with white hairs.

HABITAT: Dry and moist tundra.



Salix rotundifolia least willow SARO2 Salicaceae

HABIT: Dwarf shrub, forming mats.

KEY CHARACTERS: Very thin, slightly hairy annual shoots. Small, leathery, round or ovate leaves, entire with lateral veins raised on both sides. Very short catkins, few-flowered.

HABITAT: Arctic and alpine lichen tundra, rocky places, to at least 6500 feet.



Salix sitchensis Sitka willow SASI2 Salicaceae

HABIT: Shrub, up to 30 feet with trunk 12 inches in diameter.

KEY CHARACTERS: Twigs hairy when young, more or less smooth with age. Leaves oblong or tear–shaped, with silky hairs. Long, slender catkins, densely flowered.

HABITAT: Along streams and shores and wet areas.



Sambucus racemosa elderberry

SARA2 Caprifoliaceae

HABIT: Deciduous clump-forming shrub, 6–12 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, 5–10 inches long, toothed, hairy underneath, with 5–7 leaflets. Unpleasant odor to crushed leaves or twigs. Flowers small, white, in a terminal pyramidal inflorescences. Fruit small red drupes. Bark brown and warty.

HABITAT: Forests, thickets with alder or willow, streambanks, subalpine meadows.



Shepherdia canadensis buffaloberry

SHCA Elaeagnaceae

HABIT: Deciduous shrub, to 6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, green above, with reddish scales underneath. Twigs with brownish scales. Flowers small, yellowish or brownish. Fruit berrylike, yellow or red, ¼ inch long.

HABITAT: To 3600 feet. Well-drained forests, gravel bars, with aspen on burns.



Sibbaldia procumbens creeping sibbaldia

SIPR Rosaceae

HABIT: Mat forming, 2-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves with 3 leaflets, 3—toothed at apex, hairy on both surfaces. Flowers inconspicuous with pale yellow petals.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, open woods in the subalpine zone.



Sorbus scopulina western mountain-ash

SOSC2 Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous many-stemmed shrub, 3–13 feet, or small tree to 20 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, singly or doubly toothed, pointy at tip, with 11–13 leaflets. Buds sticky. Buds and twigs with white hairs. Flowers white, in terminal, rounded inflorescences. Fruit applelike, orange to red, less than ¾ inch in diameter.

HABITAT: Forests, subalpine.



Sorbus sitchensis Sitka mountain-ash SOSI2 Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous shrub, 4–8 feet, or small tree, to 20 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed, rounded at tip, with 7–11 leaflets. Buds and twigs with brown hairs. Twigs with odor and bitter taste of cherry. Flowers white, fragrant, in terminal rounded inflorescences. Fruits apple-like, red with bluish bloom, ½ inch in diameter.

HABITAT: Sea level to timberline.



Spiraea beauverdiana Beauverd spiraea SPBE Rosaceae

HABIT: Deciduous low to midsize many-branched shrub, 1–2 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed especially toward tip. Young branches reddish-brown. Flowers white or pink in a flat-topped or hemispheric inflorescence. Fruit pod-like, persistent through winter.

HABITAT: Low elevation to alpine. Forests, meadows, black spruce muskegs, tundra.



Vaccinium alaskensis Alaska blueberry VAAL Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading to upright shrub, up to 6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with small teeth in lower half or no teeth, glands on midvein underneath. Flowers pink, solitary, from leaf bases, appearing with leaves or after leaves partially developed. Fruit blue-black berries, usually without bloom. Fruit stalk straight, enlarged below fruit, often longer than ¾ inch.

HABITAT: Spruce-hemlock forests on the coast, especially in openings.



Vaccinium caespitosum dwarf blueberry

VACA13 Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading muchbranched shrub, 4–16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed. Flowers pink to white, solitary, from leaf bases. Fruit blue to black berries.

HABITAT: Open forests, muskegs.



Vaccinium ovalifolium early blueberry

VAOV Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous spreading shrub, to 5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, usually with no teeth or glands. Largest leaves at end of twigs. Flowers pink, solitary, from leaf bases, longer than broad, appearing before or with leaves. Fruit bluish or blue-black berries, with whitish bloom. Fruit stalk curved, not enlarged below fruit, usually shorter than ¾ inch.

HABITAT: To subalpine. Forests, muskegs, openings.





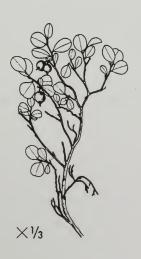
Vaccinium uliginosum bog blueberry

VAUL Ericaceae

HABIT: Deciduous prostrate to upright much-branched shrub, 8–16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, pale and distinctly veined underneath, leathery. Flowers pink, terminal or from leaf bases. Fruit blue-black berries with bluish bloom.

HABITAT: Open forests, heaths, muskegs.



Vaccinium vitis-idaea VAVI lowbush cranberry Ericaceae

HABIT: Evergreen creeping mat-forming shrub, 2–6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, edges slightly rolled under, shiny, leathery, with dark dots and brown hairs underneath. Flowers pink, terminal. Fruit red berries.

HABITAT: Spruce and birch forests, muskegs, tundra, dry alpine slopes, acidic poorly drained soil.

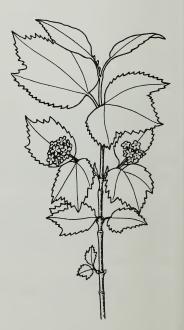


Viburnum edule highbush cranberry VIED Caprifoliaceae

HABIT: Deciduous ascending many-stemmed shrub, 2–8 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, 3–lobed, toothed. Buds dark red-brown. Flowers white, in dense terminal clusters. Fruit red-orange drupes.

HABITAT: Forests, thickets, muskegs, streambanks, beaches, tidal meadows.



FORBS

Achillea borealis yarrow ACBO Compositae

HABIT: To 3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 2–3 times pinnately divided, woolly, fragrant. Stem hairy. Flowers white, in several terminal clusters. Fruit hairless achenes.

HABITAT: To 5400 feet. Forests, meadows, sandy slopes, beaches.



Aconitum delphinifolium monkshood

ACDE2 Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Thin, straight, to 3-50 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, rounded in outline, palmately 5-lobed, hairless, few. Flowers dark blue, hooded, in few-flowered terminal raceme. Fruit follicles. Poisonous.

HABITAT: To alpine. Meadows, streambanks.



Actaea rubra baneberry

ACRU2 Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Branched, 1-3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, ternate, toothed. No basal leaves. Flowers white, in a terminal raceme. Fruit red or white pea-sized berries.

HABITAT: Forests, streambanks, open slopes, beaches.



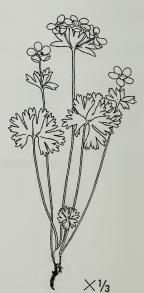
Anemone narcissiflora narcissus anemone

ANNA Ranunculaceae

HABIT: 2-25 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves rounded in outline, palmately compound, the leaflets with many divisions. Stem leaves whorled. Stems and leaves often hairy. Flowers large, white to creamy white, few to several per stem, terminal. Fruit hairless achenes.

HABITAT: Meadows, snowbeds in tundra.



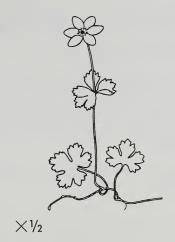
Anemone richardsonii yellow anemone

ANRI Ranunculaceae

HABIT: 2-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves from rhizome, rounded, palmately 3–lobed, the lobes divided and toothed. Stem leaves in single whorl, with no petiole. Flowers yellow, solitary, terminal. Fruit hairless achenes with very long beak. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Meadows, snowbeds.



Angelica genuflexa bent-leaved angelica

ANGE2 Umbelliferae

HABIT: 2-4½ feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem leaves alternate, ternate to bipinnate, toothed, bending downward, with hairy edges and viens. Stem hollow, often purple. Flowers white to pinkish, in terminal umbel. Fruits with lateral wings.

HABITAT: Meadows, swamps, streambanks, wet areas, beaches.



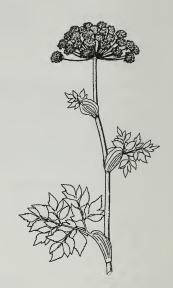
Angelica lucida seacoast angelica

ANLU Umbelliferae

HABIT: To 3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem leaves alternate, 2–3 times ternate, toothed, with inflated petiole. Flowers greenish-white, in terminal umbel. Fruits with all ribs narrowly winged.

HABITAT: Meadows, thickets, wet areas, beaches.



Antennaria monocephala pygmy pussytoes

ANMO9 Compositae

HABIT: Mat forming, with stolons, 1–6 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves \(\frac{1}{2} \) inches long, grayish hairy to hairless below, mostly hairless above. Flower heads solitary.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra.



Apargidium boreale apargidium

APBO Compositae

HABIT: 4-20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 2–10 inches long, ½–½ inches wide. Petals yellow, often drying whitish or pinkish.

HABITAT: Wet meadows.



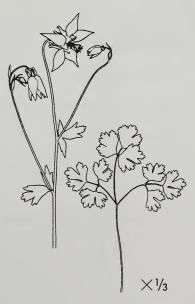
Aquilegia formosa western columbine

AQFO Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Branched, 1-3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, white underneath, twice ternate. Stem leaves alternate. Flowers with red sepals and spurs with yellow petals. Flowers 2–4 per stem, terminal, nodding. Fruit hairy follicles.

HABITAT: Moist forests, meadows, open areas, beaches.



Arabis lyrata lyreleaved rockcress

ARLY2 Cruciferae

HABIT: Branched, to 8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves reddish-purple, lyre-shaped to pinnately divided. Stem leaves alternate, dull purple, pinnately divided to linear. Flowers white or pink, few to several in terminal raceme. Fruit hairless capsules (siliques).

HABITAT: Moist stony places, scree slopes.



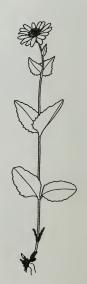
Arnica latifolia broadleaf arnica

ARLA8 Compositae

HABIT: 4-25 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves smaller than the stem leaves, basal leaves usually withered by flowering time, stem leaves ¾-4 inches long and ½-3 inches wide, usually toothed, petiole shorter than the blades. Flowers yellow, 1–5 per plant. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Open woods, meadows, heath.



Artemisia arctica boreal sagebrush

ARAR9 Compositae

HABIT: Stems from a stout, woody base with short runners.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves at base bipinnately dissected into about 5–7 pairs, with linear, pointed, ultimate lobes. Stem leaves are reduced. Nodding dense cluster of flowers, the lower long-stalked. Yellow, fuzzy, disc flowers. Smooth fruit.

HABITAT: Meadows, in the mountains to 6500 feet.



Artemisia tilesii Aleutian mugwort ARTI Compositae

HABIT: 1-4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–2 times pinnately divided, hairy underneath. Flowers yellow, tinged with red, numerous nodding heads in spike-like inflorescences. Fruit hairless achenes.

HABITAT: Lowlands to mountains. Roadsides, gravelly or sandy areas.



Aruncus sylvester goatsbeard

ARSYA Rosaceae

HABIT: 3-6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, ternate, doubly toothed. Flowers white, several in terminal clusters. Fruit upright follicles.

HABITAT: Moist forests, meadows, streambanks.



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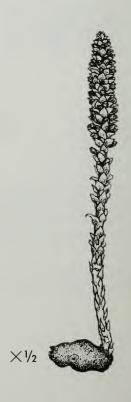
Boschniakia rossica ground-cone

BORO Orobanchaceae

HABIT: Cone-like, 4-16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves scale-like, yellowish to purplish. Flowers purplish, several in terminal inflorescence.

HABITAT: Forests, beaches. Commonly found under alder stands. Parasitic on alder roots.



Callitriche hermaphroditica CAHE2 northern waterstarwort Callitrichaceae

HABIT: Slender plants, 2-10 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Linear 1-veined leaves with indentation at tip. Fruit with conspicuous wings. Plant dark green.

HABITAT: Submerged in shallow ponds.



Callitriche verna spring waterstarwort

CAVE2 Callitrichaceae

HABIT: Slender plants, 2–10 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Linear 1-veined leaves with indentation at tip. Fruit not distinctly winged. Plant light green.

HABITAT: Floating in shallow ponds, mud.

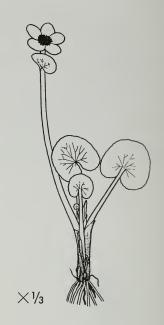


Caltha palustris yellow marsh-marigold CAPA5 Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Decumbent, 4-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal and on stem, toothed. Stem hollow. Flowers yellow, often greenish or purplish on back, solitary, terminal, with 5–8 petal-like sepals. Fruit follicles, with hooked beak. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Slow running water, moist places.



Campanula lasiocarpa mountain harebell CALA7 Campanulaceae

HABIT: Stems from thin, branching rhizomes.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves at base are long-stalked, tear-shaped and pointed, entire or usually coarsely dentate. Stem leaves are not stalked and are gradually reduced. Single, large blue flowers with linear, pointed, narrow-lobed segments.

HABITAT: Alpine heaths, sandy tundra, in the mountains to at least 5000 feet.



Campanula rotundifolia CARO2 bluebells of Scotland Campanulaceae

HABIT: One to several prostrate to upright stems, to 8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves narrow, with few teeth. Flowers purplish-blue, solitary, terminal. Sepals bent backward. Fruit nodding capsules.

HABITAT: Open areas, grassy slopes, rock outcrops along coast.



Cardamine umbellata little western bittercress

CAUM3 Cruciferae

HABIT: To 20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves with 1–3 pairs of leaflets and a 3–lobed terminal leaflet. Stem leaves alternate, with narrower leaflets. Flowers small, white, in terminal inflorescence. Fruit long, thin capsules (siliques).

HABITAT: Wet areas, disturbed areas.



Castilleja unalaschcensis CAUN4 Alaska Indian paintbrush Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: 8-32 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem leaves pubescent, with 3–5 veins. No basal leaves. Flower bracts yellowish, lobed, at top of stem. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, tidal flats.



Cicuta douglasii
western water hemlock

CIDO Umbelliferae

HABIT: Stout with single stems, or a few together, from tuberous and chambered roots.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 1–3 pinnate with serrate, oblong leaflets. Several umbels of flowers with 12–20 rays. Fruit ovate to circular. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Marshes, along streams.



Cicuta mackenzieana CIMA Mackenzie's water hemlock Umbelliferae

HABIT: Stout, single stems or a few together, from tuberous roots.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 1–3 pinnate, leaflets lanceolate and thin. Several umbels of flowers with 7–14 rays. Ripe fruit much broader than long. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Marshes.



Circaea alpina enchanter's nightshade

CIAL Onagraceae

HABIT: 2-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, toothed. Flowers white to pink, in racemes, petals 2–lobed. Fruits covered with soft bristles.

HABITAT: Moist forests, streambanks, seeps, with Sitka alder along beaches.



Coeloglossum viride COVI6 longbract frog orchid Orchidaceae

HABIT: Single upright stem, 2½-25 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stems with several leaves. Flowers green to yellowish green in several to many-flowered raceme.

HABITAT: Tundra, heath, woods, meadows.



Conioselinum chinense western hemlock-parsley

COCHP Umbelliferae

HABIT: 6-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 2–3 times pinnately compound, leaflets again lobed, with inflated petiole. Flowers white, in umbels. Fruits with lateral wings.

HABITAT: Meadows, sandy shores.



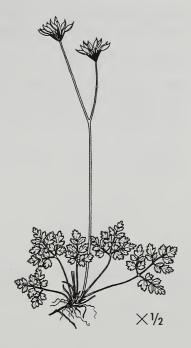
Coptis aspleniifolia fern leaf goldthread

COAS Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 4–14 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, toothed, with 5 leaflets. Flowers white, 1–3 per plant, on long leafless stem. Fruit follicles, speading in wheel-shape.

HABITAT: Forests, muskegs, moist places.

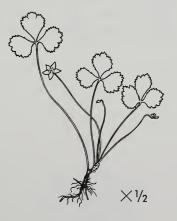


Coptis trifolia trifoliate goldthread COTR2 Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 2-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves pale below, toothed, shiny, with 3 leaflets. Flowers white, solitary, on long leafless stem. Fruit follicles.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, muskegs, tundra.



Cornus canadensis bunchberry

COCA13 Cornaceae

HABIT: 2-8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 4–6 in a terminal whorl with 1–2 pairs much smaller, opposite stem leaves below. Flower bracts white, petal-like. Fruit clustered red berries.

HABITAT: Spruce and birch forests, muskegs.



Delphinium glaucum larkspur

DEGL3 Ranunculaceae

HABIT: 11/2-5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, palmately 5–7 lobed, the lobes divided and toothed. Flowers dark violet-purple, spurred, in many-flowered terminal raceme. Fruit hairless follicles.

HABITAT: Wet meadows, streambanks.



Dodecatheon pulchellum pretty shooting star

DOPU Primulaceae

HABIT: 5-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, thick, with long, winged petiole. Flowers purplish-lavender with a yellow ring at base, several per long leafless stem. Fruit ovoid capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs, open areas, saline meadows.



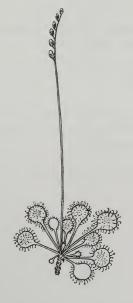
Drosera rotundifolia round-leaf sundew

DRRO Droseraceae

HABIT: 3 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in basal rosettes, nearly round, lying flat on the ground, with sticky red-stalked glands. Flowers white, several in leafless long-stemmed inflorescence. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs, swamps, wet areas.



Epilobium adenocaulon EPAD northern willow herb Onagraceae

HABIT: Upright, branched. 4–30 inches

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly opposite, toothed. Flowers small, white to red. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Disturbed sites, roadsides.



Epilobium anagalladifolium EPAN4 alpine willow herb Onagraceae

HABIT: Low-growing, single stem, 4–6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, small. Flowers small, reddish-violet to pink. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Moist places.



Epilobium angustifolium tall fireweed

EPAN2 Onagraceae

HABIT: Unbranched, 11/2-5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, pale and distinctly veined underneath. Stem densely leafy. Flowers large, lilac-purple, in terminal raceme. Fruit hairy capsules, 1–4 inches long.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, gravel bars, beach fringe, burned areas.



Epilobium glandulosum fringed willow herb

EPGL4 Onagraceae

HABIT: 10-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stems single or branched in upper portion of plant. Leaves mostly opposite, serrate. Petals pink to purplish.

HABITAT: Moist sites in woods, thickets, meadows, and beaches.

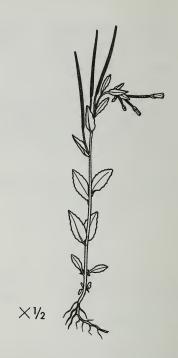


Epilobium hornemannii EPHO Hornemann's willow herb Onagraceae

HABIT: 1½-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stems mostly single. Leaves mostly opposite (the upper ones may be alternate), sparsely serrate. Petals lilac-pink.

HABITAT: Near seeps and springs, along streams, in moist meadows, bogs.



Epilobium latifolium dwarf fireweed

EPLA Onagraceae

HABIT: Decumbent, 4-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, whitish, finely pubescent, fleshy, not veiny. Flowers large, purple or rose, numerous from leaf bases. Fruit purplish hairy capsules.

HABITAT: To 6000 feet. Meadows, steambanks, river bars, scree slopes.



Epilobium leptocarpum EPLE slenderfruit willow herb Onagraceae

HABIT: Many branched, usually less than 4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly opposite, few teeth. Petals whitish to pink.

HABITAT: Moist places.



Epilobium palustre swamp willow herb

EPPA Onagraceae

HABIT: Branched or unbranched, 4–16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite low on stem, alternate high on stem, narrow, with no petiole. Flowers small, pink or whitish. Fruit hairy capsules.

HABITAT: Meadows, muskegs, steambanks, wet places.



Erigeron peregrinus subalpine fleabane

ERPE3 Compositae

HABIT: 2-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with hairy edges and no petiole. Flowers white, pink, purple, or blue, usually 1 per plant and solitary, terminal. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, muskegs, alpine.



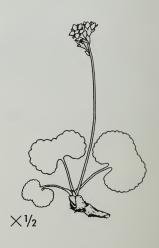
Fauria crista-galli deer cabbage

FACR Gentianaceae

HABIT: 8-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, kidney-shaped, fleshy, with rounded teeth and slightly notched tip. Flowers white, in leafless long-stemmed inflorescence. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Open forests, muskegs, swamps, wet meadows, seeps.



Fragaria chiloensis beach strawberry FRCH Rosaceae

HABIT: Plant with stout rhizomes and long, brown stolons.

KEY CHARACTERS: Thick leaves with three leaflets, coarsely serrate, the upper surface green and shiny, the lower surface pale and usually hairy. Petals white. Fruit mostly at least ½ inches in diameter.

HABITAT: Along the coast in woods, meadows, and gravelly beaches.



Fritillaria camschatcensis chocolate lily

FRCA5 Liliaceae

HABIT: 8-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 5–9 in a whorl. Flowers purple-black, 1–several per stem, terminal, nodding, with unpleasant odor. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Meadows, tide flats.



Galium boreale northern bedstraw

GABO2 Rubiaceae

HABIT: Upright, branched, 8-32 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 4 in a whorl, rounded at the tip, with 3 veins and no petiole. Stems square. Flowers white to cream, several in terminal inflorescences. Fruit with hairs.

HABITAT: Meadows, rocky slopes.



Galium trifidum threepetal bedstraw

GATR2 Rubiaceae

HABIT: Weak, slender, branched stems with upper internodes rough to the touch, from slender rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in whorls of 4, linear to oblong, blunt and bent downward. Whitish, lobed flowers, single or 3 together. Smooth fruit.

HABITAT: Wet places.



Galium triflorum fragrant bedstraw

GATR3 Rubiaceae

HABIT: Perennial, sprawling, 8–40 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 6 in a whorl, pointed at tip, with 1 vein and no petiole. Stems square and bristly. Flowers greenish—white, several per plant, usually 3 per stalk, from leaf bases. Fruits with hairs and prickles.

HABITAT: Moist forests, thickets, open areas.

Gentiana douglasiana swamp gentian

GEDO Gentianaceae

HABIT: Branched, 2-11 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite. Flowers white, bluish on outside, solitary, or in inflorescence, terminal or from leaf bases. Fruit oblong stalkless capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs, wet meadows, alpine.



Gentiana glauca pale gentian

GEGL Gentianaceae

HABIT: 1-6 inches

KEY CHARACTERS: Smooth, yellowish–green leaves in clusters. Stem leaves in 1–3 pairs, elliptical to rounded. Inner flower blue, dark blue, or greenish-blue with ovate, obtuse lobes.

HABITAT: Meadows in the alpine and subalpine zones, to at least 5000 feet.



Gentiana platypetala spotted gentian

GEPL Gentianaceae

HABIT: 4-14 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, with no petiole. No basal leaves. Flowers blue, mostly solitary, terminal, with no stalk. Fruit oblong capsules.

HABITAT: Sea level to alpine. Wet meadows, grassy slopes.



Geocaulon lividum northern comandra

GELI2 Santalaceae

HABIT: To 6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, often bi-colored. No basal leaves. Flowers inconspicuous, from leaf bases, with no petals. Fleshy orange fruits.

HABITAT: Poplar flats, muskeg, dry places, tundra.



Geranium erianthum northern geranium

GEER2 Geraniaceae

HABIT: 8-32 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves round in outline, palmately 3–5 lobed, pubescent, with long petiole. Stem leaves with no petiole. Flowers rose or violet, 3–5 in clusters. Fruit pubescent.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, streambanks, rocky areas, alpine, beaches.



Geum calthifolium calthaleaf avens

GECA6 Rosaceae

HABIT: Stems from dark, stout woody base.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves at base fuzzy on both sides, with short, yellow hairs. Very small lower lobes and a large, orbicular end lobe. Yellow, heart-shaped flower petals.

HABITAT: Wet meadows.

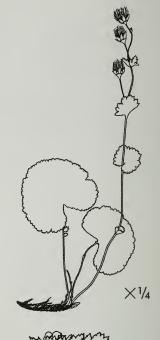
Geum macrophyllum large-leaf avens

GEMA4 Rosaceae

HABIT: 11-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves lyre–shaped and pinnately compound, hairy. Stem leaves with fewer leaflets. Stems hairy. Flowers yellow, several in inflorescences. Fruit hairy nutlets in burr–like heads.

HABITAT: Forests, muskegs, beaches.





Hedysarum alpinum alpine sweetvetch

HEAL Leguminosae

HABIT: Upright to decumbent stems, 4–40 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Compound leaves with 9–23 leaflets. Flowers in raceme from 1–7 inches long. Petals pink to pink purple (rarely white). Fruits are loments with 1–4 segments.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, woods. Mostly on sandy or gravelly soils.



Heracleum lanatum cow parsnip

HELA4 Umbelliferae

HABIT: 1½-6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, large, lobed and toothed, upper with inflated sheaths. Flowers white, in umbels. Fruit with lateral wings.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, streambanks, beaches.



Heuchera glabra alpine heuchera

HEGL5 Saxifragaceae

HABIT: 6-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, 3–5 lobed, toothed. Flowers white, in long-stemmed inflorescence with 1–3 reduced leaves. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Streambanks, moist rocks, sea cliffs, alpine meadows along seeps.



Hieracium triste woolly hawkweed HITR2 Compositae

HABIT: 1–10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves at base tearto spoon-shaped, entire with hairs in margin, long-stalked, smooth above, sparsely fuzzy beneath. Large terminal flower heads, with grayish, long, soft hairs. Short, yellow ligules.

HABITAT: Stony slopes.



Hippuris tetraphylla fourleaf marestail

HITE Haloragaceae

HABIT: Stem from stout, creeping rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 4-6 in a whorl, 1/10-1/2 inches wide, entire, not pointed, and shorter than the internodes.

HABITAT: Shallow ponds and mud flats.



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Hippuris vulgaris common marestail

HIVU2 Haloragaceae

HABIT: Stem from stout, creeping rhizome

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 6-12 in a whorl, linear, entire, pointed and longer than the internodes. In submerged forms thin, pale green. Small flowers in leaf-notch of submerged leaves.

HABITAT: Shallow ponds, streams, and mud flats.



Honckenya peploides seaside sandplant

HOPE Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Forming loose to dense mats 4–30 inches broad or more, from deep taproot and horizontal stolons/rhizomes.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, fleshy, lower leaves smaller than those of the middle stem, stem leaves 3–10 pairs or more. Flowers solitary in the upper leaf axils, petals white or greenish-white.

HABITAT: Maritime beaches.

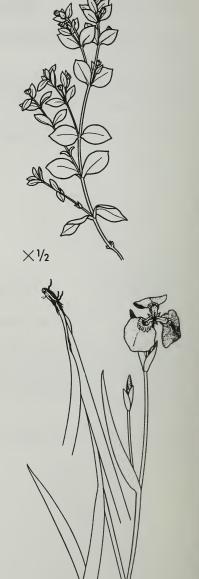
Iris setosa wild iris

IRSE Iridaceae

HABIT: 12-28 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves sword–shaped. Flowers large, blue with dark viens, few per plant. Fruit capsules. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Meadows, shores, tidal flats.



Lathyrus maritimus beach pea

LAMA3 Leguminosae

HABIT: From rhizomes.

KEY CHARACTERS: Fuzzy. Leaves with 6–12 leaflets, tendrils simple to branched. Stipules leaf-like. Pink-purple flowers.

HABITAT: In coastal areas on beaches, strands, and cliff bases.



Lathyrus palustris vetchling

LAPA4 Leguminosae

HABIT: From slender rhizomes.

KEY CHARACTERS: Fuzzy. Leaves with 4–8 linear leaflets, branched tendrils. Stipules much smaller than the leaflets. Winged stem. Bluish-violet flowers.

HABITAT: Meadows, tidal flats, beaches, woods, lake shores.



Ligusticum scoticum beach lovage

LISC3 Umbelliferae

HABIT: Single stemmed, smooth and reddish-violet at the base, from a thick root.

KEY CHARACTERS: Thick leaves, divided into threes with ovate, coarsely-toothed leaflets. Stem leaves reduced, with long, often violet, sheaths. Flowers in rays of 7–11 umbels, with white or pinkish petals. Fruit has 3 winged ribs on back.

HABITAT: Seashores.



Listera borealis northern twayblade LIBO4 Orchidaceae

HABIT: To 8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves paired on stem. Flowers green or yellowish-green, in terminal raceme. Lowest petal with 2 broad lobes. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Moist forests, muskegs.



Listera caurina western twayblade

LICA10 Orchidaceae

HABIT: 4-14 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves paired on stem. Flowers yellowish-green, in terminal raceme. Lowest petal rounded at tip. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Evergreen forests.



Listera cordata heart-leaf twayblade LICO6 Orchidaceae

HABIT: 3-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves paired on stem, heart-shaped at base. Flowers green or dark purple, in terminal raceme. Lowest petal with 2 linear lobes. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Forests.



Lloydia serotina common alplily

LLSE Liliaceae

HABIT: Upright, 2-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves linear, ¾-3 inches long. Stem leaves alternate, reduced upward, linear, ¾-1½ inches long. Flowers creamy white.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra and heath.

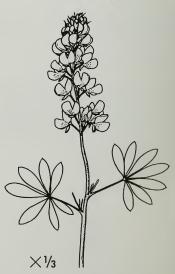


Lupinus nootkatensis Nootka lupine LUNO Leguminosae

HABIT: 1-4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, white to brown pubescent on both sides or hairless above, with 5–9 palmately compound leaflets. Flowers blue, in densely pubescent terminal raceme. Fruit peapod–like, black. Poisonous.

HABITAT: Sea level to alpine. Open forests, gravel bars, dry slopes, beaches.



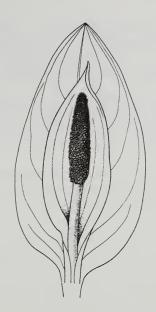
Lysichiton americanum skunk cabbage

LYAM3 Araceae

HABIT: 1-5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in basal cluster, 12–51 inches long, fleshy. Flowers small, green, in terminal spike, surrounded by yellow bract. Fruit green to red berries. With unpleasant odor.

HABITAT: Wet forests, edges of muskegs, marshes, streambanks.



Lysimachia thyrsiflora tufted loosestrife

LYTH2 Primulaceae

HABIT: Upright, 8-30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Lower leaves scale-like. Middle and upper leaves opposite, 1–6 inches long, ½–2½ inches wide, dotted with black glands. Flowers on long peduncles in dense racemes from the leaf axils.

HABITAT: Along streams, lake shores, and ponds.



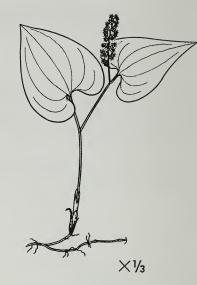
Maianthemum dilatatum deerberry

MADI Liliaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 8–23 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: 2–3 alternate stem leaves, heart- to arrowhead-shaped, parallel veined. Flowers cream to white, in terminal raceme. Fruit red and white mottled berries.

HABITAT: Moist forests, meadows, alder thickets, streambanks, lakeshores, open grassy beach forests.



Menyanthes trifoliata buckbean

METR3 Gentianaceae

HABIT: Aquatic submerged, to 10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves with 3 leaflets. Flowers white to pink, in terminal raceme, petals with long white hairs. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs, swamps, ponds, wet meadows.



Mertensia paniculata chiming bells

MEPA Boraginaceae

HABIT: 18-30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves with long, winged petiole. Stem leaves alternate, with minute petiole. Flowers blue, in leafless long-stemmed racemes, nodding. Fruit nutlets.

HABITAT: Forests, streambanks, subalpine meadow, gravel bars.



Minuartia arctica arctic stitchwort

MIAR3 Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Upright, branched, to 4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, hairy underneath and on edges. Largest leaves at middle of stem. Basal leaves narrowly linear. Stem hairy. Flowers white, upright, solitary or 2–5 in terminal inflorescence. Fruit egg-shaped capsules.

HABITAT: Forests, dry meadows, thickets, gravel bars, beaches.



Moehringia lateriflora grove sandwort

MOLA6 Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Upright, branched, to 4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, hairy underneath and on edges. Largest leaves at middle of stem. Stem hairy. Flowers white, upright, solitary or 2–5 in terminal inflorescence. Fruit egg-shaped capsules.

HABITAT: Forests, dry meadows, thickets, gravel bars, beaches.



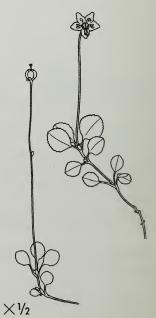
Moneses uniflora single delight

MOUN2 Pyrolaceae

HABIT: 2-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves rounded, toothed. Flowers white, waxy, fragrant, nodding, 1 per plant, on long 1–2–bracted stalk. Fruit upright capsules.

HABITAT: Dense forests on rotten wood, organic soil at low elevation.



Myosotis alpestris forget-me-not

MYAL Boraginaceae

The Alaska State Flower

HABIT: To 20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves pubescent, with long petiole. Stem leaves alternate, pubescent, with no petioles. Flowers blue with yellow center, in terminal inflorescence, upright. Fruit nutlets.

HABITAT: Meadows, rocky areas, alpine and subalpine.



Myriophyllum sibiricum shortspike watermilfoil

MYSI Haloragaceae

HABIT: Stem from elongated, creeping rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Pinnate leaves, usually forming a whorl. Spike emerging above water. Female flower has small petals, male flower has larger petals.

HABITAT: Shallow water.



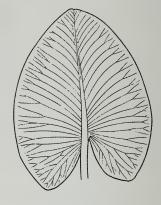
Nuphar polysepala yellow pondlily

NUPO2 Nymphaeaceae

HABIT: Stout herbaceous plant from submerged rhizomes.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves with petioles to 40 inches long or longer, the blades floating to emergent, leathery, 3–10 inches long, 4–9 inches wide. Flowers yellowish to purple.

HABITAT: Ponds and slowly flowing streams.





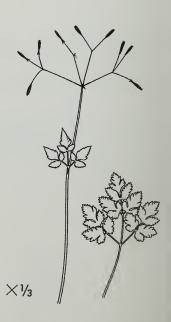
Osmorhiza depauperata blunt-fruit sweet-cicely

OSDE Umbelliferae

HABIT: 6-28 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–3 times ternate, the leaflets again lobed and toothed. Flowers greenish-white or white, in umbel. Fruits club-shaped, hairy at base, ½–1 inch long.

HABITAT: Forests.



Osmorhiza purpurea Sitka sweet-cicely OSPU Umbelliferae

HABIT: 12-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 1–3 times-ternate, the leaflets again lobed and toothed. Flowers green to purple, in umbel. Fruits widest at middle, hairy, shorter than ½ inch.

HABITAT: Forests, steambanks.



Oxytropis nigrescens blackish oxytrope

OXNI Leguminosae

HABIT: Tufted to loosely matted.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves with 5–15 leaflets, leaflets hairy on both sides. Inflorescences with usually 2–3 flowers, petals purplish to blue.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, stony slopes.



Parnassia palustris PAPA8 northern grass-of-parnassus Saxifragaceae

HABIT: 4-18 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, with short petioles. Flowers white, 1–several per plant, solitary, on long 1–leaved stem. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Heaths, wet meadows.



Pedicularis capitata capitate lousewort

PECA2 Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Single stem, 2-6 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves pinnately compound, the leaflets lobed or dissected. Inflorescence in a head of 1–8 flowers, petals cream colored.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, rocky slopes.



Pedicularis kanei woolly lousewort

PEKA7 Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Single stem, hairy in the inflorescence, 2–10 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves pinnately compound, the leaflets dissected into many segments. Inflorescence elongated and many flowered, petals rose pink to lavender.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, rocky areas.



Pedicularis labradorica Labrador lousewort PELA Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Branched or unbranched, 6–10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, pinnately divided. Stem with white hairs. Flowers yellow or reddish, several per plant, upper petal forming hood enclosing stamens. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: To alpine. Forests.



Pedicularis langsdorfii PELA3 Langsdorf's lousewort Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Single stem, 2–9 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves lobed to pinnatifid, the lobes toothed or smooth. Inflorescence in an elongated head, several to many-flowered, flowers rose pink to pink-purple.

HABITAT: Dry to moist tundra and heathlands.



Pedicularis parviflora smallflower lousewort Scro

PEPA4 Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Simple stem, or mostly branched from the base.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves along stem oblong and deeply pinnately lobed, with dentate segments. Flowers in 2 parts, rose—colored, lower lip 3—lobed and broader than long.

HABITAT: Swamps, muskeg.



Pedicularis verticillata whorled lousewort

PEVE Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Stems single or several, 3–16 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves with long petioles. Stem leaves with short petioles or sessile, whorled. All leaves pinnatifid, the lobes toothed or incised. Inflorescence in a head or elongate with many flowers, flowers rose pink.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, meadows, woods, rocky slopes.

Petasites hyperboreus arctic sweet coltsfoot

PEHY5 Compositae

HABIT: Simple stems, from creeping rootstocks, with reddish scales.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves deeply lobed into 3–5 broad, grossly toothed segments, smooth above with white fuzz beneath. Flowers purplish.

HABITAT: Wet tundra, shores, along creeks.



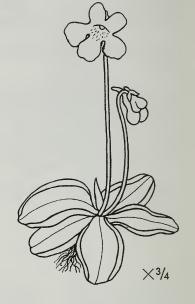
Pinguicula vulgaris common butterwort

PIVU Lentibulariaceae

HABIT: 3-7 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in basal rosette, shiny, fleshy. Flowers blue to violet, longer than ½ inch, 1–2 per plant, solitary, on long leafless stems, nodding, with blunt or pointy spur. Fruit spherical capsules.

HABITAT: Wet areas.



Plantago maritima goosetongue plantain

PLMA3 Plantaginaceae

HABIT: 3-7 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves linear-lanceolate in basal rosette, shiny, fleshy. Flowers blue to violet, longer than 1 inch, 1–2 per plant, solitary, on long leafless stems, nodding, with blunt or pointy spur. Fruit spherical capsules.

HABITAT: Wet areas.



Platanthera dilatata boreal bog orchid

PLDI3 Orchidaceae

HABIT: Stems from fleshy, rootlike tuberoids.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves ovate to lanceolate. Many-flowered spike with white flowers, sweet-scented.

HABITAT: Wet meadows, bogs.



Platanthera saccata slender bog orchid

PLSA6 Orchidaceae

HABIT: Upright, 6-20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stems with several leaves, oblanceolate to lanceolate. Inflorescence a few to many-flowered raceme. Flowers greenish.

HABITAT: Open woods, thickets, muskegs, meadows.



Polemonium acutiflorum tall Jacob's-ladder

POAC Polemoniaceae

HABIT: 8-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, with several hairless pinnately compound leaflets. Stem hairy. Flowers blue to violet, several per plant, with pointy, hairy-edged petals. Fruit round capsules.

HABITAT: Streambanks, wet meadows.



Polygonum viviparum alpine bistort

POVI3 Polygonaceae

HABIT: Thick, hard, usually contorted rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves from base lanceolate-oblong, shiny above, grayish below, smooth. Spike with lower flowers replaced by bulblets with white or pink flowers.

HABITAT: Dry meadows, heaths, to at least 7000 feet.



Potamogeton filiformis POFI2 slender-leaved pondweed Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Threadlike stem, branched especially at the base.

KEY CHARACTERS: Bristlelike leaves, brownish-green and blunt. Long flower stalk, spike with 3–4, usually widely separated whorls of flowers.

HABITAT: Shallow water.



Potamogeton natans floating pondweed

PONA4 Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Rounded stem up to 40 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Submerged leaves linear with no differentiation between the blade and the petiole. Floating leaves up to 3½ inches long and 1½ inches wide, thick, with many prominent parallel veins. Green fruits on a spike 1½–2 inches long.

HABITAT: Lakes, ponds, streams with sluggish water.



Potamogeton pectinatus POPE6 sago pondweed Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Rounded stem up to 15 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves all submerged, hairlike. Fruits in about 5 whorls on a spike.

HABITAT: Lakes and ponds (often with saline or brackish water).

Potamogeton perfoliatus POPER5 claspingleaf pondweed Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Rounded stem up to 40 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: All leaves submerged. Stem densely covered with ovate, dark-green leaves, often clasping the stem all around. Short, curved flower stalk with a brown spike.

HABITAT: Lakes.



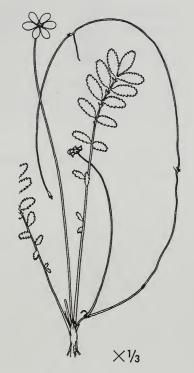


Potentilla egedii Pacific silverweed POEG Rosaceae

HABIT: Hairy stolons.

KEY CHARACTERS: All leaves are at or near the base, compound, completely or almost completely smooth, with 2–5 pairs of leaflets. Single-flowered with yellow petals.

HABITAT: Often found in wet places.



Potentilla palustris marsh fivefinger POPA14 Rosaceae

HABIT: Prostrate to ascending, 4–40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves toothed, pale and pubescent underneath, with 5–7 leaflets. Flowers brownish-purple, several per plant. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Wet meadows, streams, shallow water.



Prenanthes alata rattlesnake root

PRAL Compositae

HABIT: 8-30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, white below, arrowhead-shaped, toothed. Flowers white, several per plant. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Streambanks, wet open areas, beach fringe, subalpine forests.



Primula cuneifolia wedgeleaf primrose

PRCU Primulaceae

HABIT: Stem up to 3 inches long. Leaves all basal.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves thick, 5–11 teeth at apex. Inflorescence an umbel with 1–9 flowers. Petals pink to rose or white.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, wet meadows.



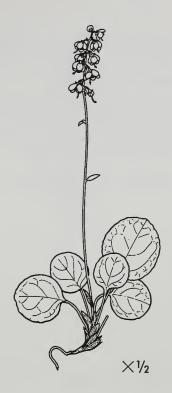
Pyrola asarifolia liverleaf wintergreen

PYAS Pyrolaceae

HABIT: Perennial, 5-16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, purplish underneath, rounded, toothed, leathery. Flowers crimson to pink, nodding, several in 1–3 bracted, long-stemmed terminal raceme, nodding, style long and curved. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Forests, gravelly open areas, beach forests.



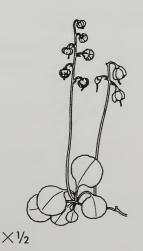
Pyrola chlorantha greenish wintergreen

PYCH Pyrolaceae

HABIT: Perennial, 1/2-1 inch.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, small, round, toothed, leathery. Flowers pale yellowish or greenish-white, few-10 in long leafless raceme, style curved. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Forests.



Pyrola grandiflora PYGR largeflowered wintergreen Pyrolaceae

HABIT: 2½-5 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, the blades thick, lustrous, rounded. Inflorescence a 4–11 flowered raceme. Petals white or greenish-white.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, woods.



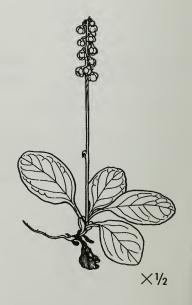
Pyrola minor snowline wintergreen

PYMI Pyrolaceae

HABIT: 2½-5 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal. Inflorescence a 5–13 flowered raceme. Petals white or pinkish.

HABITAT: Meadows, heath, woods.



Pyrola secunda one-sided wintergreen

PYSE Pyrolaceae

HABIT: Perennial, 3-8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, toothed. Flowers greenish-white, several in 1–5 bracted long-stemmed one-sided inflorescence. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Open forests.



Ranunculus cymbalaria seaside buttercup

RACY Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Tufted, threadlike stolons.

KEY CHARACTERS: Rounded, kidney-or heart-shaped leaves. Small flowers with usually 5 yellow petals. Ovate to cylindrical fruiting head and a hairy receptacle.

HABITAT: Moist places, brackish water, sometimes apparently spread by human activity.



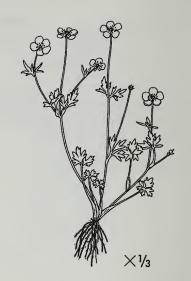
Ranunculus occidentalis western buttercup

RAOC Ranunculaceae

HABIT: 3-25 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves 3-parted, the parts lobed or toothed. Stem leaves alternate, with no petiole. Flowers yellow, several per plant, solitary. Fruit achenes in hemispherical head.

HABITAT: Moist meadows, tundra.



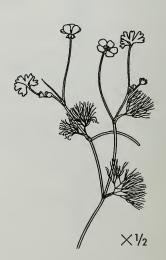
Ranunculus trichophyllus white water crowfoot

RATR Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Aquatic, stems floating or submerged, 8–80 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves dark green, finely dissected into hairlike segments, the upper leaves palmately divided into 3–5 lobes. Flowers white.

HABITAT: Ponds and streams.



Rhinanthus minor yellow rattle

RHMI13 Scrophulariaceae

HABIT: Somewhat branched or unbranched, to 30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, narrow, toothed. Flowers yellow, numerous. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Meadows, disturbed areas, beaches.



Rubus arcticus nagoonberry

RUAR Rosaceae

HABIT: 1-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, palmately compound or 3-lobed. Flowers pink, few per plant, usually solitary, terminal, with narrow petals. Fruit red to purplish.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, muskegs, streambanks, beach fringe.



Rubus chamaemorus cloudberry

RUCH Rosaceae

HABIT: 2-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves roundish, 3–5 lobed, toothed, leathery. Flowers white, solitary, terminal. Fruits yellow-orange when ripe.

HABITAT: Meadows, muskegs, alpine.



Rubus pedatus fiveleaf bramble

RUPE Rosaceae

HABIT: Trailing, 1-4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves toothed, with 5 palmately compound leaflets. Flowers white, solitary, on few-bracted stalk. Fruits red.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, muskegs.



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Rumex fenestratus western dock

RUFE3 Polygonaceae

HABIT: Upright from taproots, 20–80 inches, usually unbranched below the inflorescence.

KEY CHARACTERS: Lower leaves up to 12 inches long, the upper leaves smaller. Inflorescence a dense panicle.

HABITAT: Marshes, beaches, stream banks, tidal flats.



Sanguisorba stipulata Sitka burnet SAST11 Rosaceae

HABIT: 10-30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves pinnately compound, toothed. Flowers greenish—white, in a dense, long-stemmed, 1–3 inch spike with 1–3 reduced leaves, stamens very long and conspicuous. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Meadows, muskegs, swamps, tundra.



Saxifraga bronchialis yellowdot saxifrage

SABR6 Saxifragaceae

HABIT: 1-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves leathery, with no petiole, pointed tips, and stout hairs on edges. Flowers white or cream, spotted with yellow or red, in several-leaved long-stemmed inflorescence. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Rocky soil, rock crevices, cliffs, tundra.



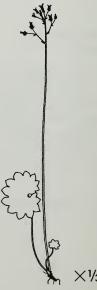
Saxifraga punctata heart-leaved saxifrage

SAPU6 Saxifragaceae

HABIT: 2-24 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves kidney-shaped, with many large teeth. Flowers white to pink, in leafless long-stemmed inflorescence. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Streambanks, open areas, alpine meadows.



Saxifraga tricuspidata prickly saxifrage

SATR5 Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, 1-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves brownishgreen, leathery, with 3 teeth and hairy edges. Flowers white with yellow spots at base and red spots at tip, in long-stemmed inflorescence with several reduced leaves. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Gravelly slopes, rock crevices, cliffs, ridges, tundra.

Sedum rosea roseroot stonecrop

SEROI3 Crassulaceae

HABIT: Upright from thick rhizome, 3–10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem with many leaves. Leaves reduced and scalelike on the lower stem, becoming larger higher up. Flowers purple.

HABITAT: Scree slopes, rocky places, alpine tundra, heath, open woods.



Senecio triangularis arrowleaf groundsel

SETR Compositae

HABIT: 1-4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, triangular, toothed. No basal leaves. Flowers yellow, several in flat-topped inflorescences. Fruit hairless achenes.

HABITAT: Streambanks, wet meadows, open areas.



Solidago multiradiata northern goldenrod

SOMU Compositae

HABIT: Upright, 4-20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, toothed, with hairy edges at base. Flowers small, yellow, several in dense inflorescence. Fruit hairy achenes.

HABITAT: From lowlands to the lower alpine. Meadows, open areas, rocky soil.



Sparganium angustifolium SPAN2 floating burreed Sparganiaceae

HABIT: Aquatic plant with stems 6–25 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves usually floating, distinctly named. Fruit with pointed beak longer than ½ inches.

HABITAT: Ponds and sluggish streams.



Sparganium hyperboreum northern burreed

SPHY Sparganiaceae

HABIT: Aquatic plant with stems 4–10 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves upright or floating. Fruit nearly beakless.

HABITAT: Ponds and lakes.



Sparganium minimum small burreed

SPMI Sparganiaceae

HABIT: Aquatic plant with stems up to 15 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves upright or floating, lacking median nerve. Fruit with short cone-shaped beak.

HABITAT: Ponds and lakes.



Spiranthes romanzoffiana hooded ladies' tresses

SPRO Orchidaceae

HABIT: Stem leafy in lower part, from fleshy tuberoid roots.

KEY CHARACTERS: Flowers in 3 spiral rows, fragrant and white to creamy. Sepals and 2 petals forming hood, lip constricted above the middle with a terminal round to ovate lobe.

HABITAT: Bogs, marshes, in mountains to at least 3000 feet.



Stellaria calycantha northern starwort STCA Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Weak stem, curving upward, branching, smooth or slightly rough.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves without stalks, opposite, ovate-lanceolate, pointed. Single flowers in forks of stem.

HABITAT: Wet places.



Stellaria crassifolia fleshy starwort

STCR Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Forms mats or clumps, stems 1–10 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, without petiole, mostly much longer than broad. Flowers 1–3 in open cymes, petals white.

HABITAT: Muskegs, open woods, lake shores, snow beds.



Stellaria crispa curled starwort

STCR2 Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Forms mats, stems 4–20 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, without petiole, egg-shaped in outline, sharply pointed at the apex. Flowers solitary in leaf axils, petals usually lacking.

HABITAT: Wet soil in woods, on stream banks, and on beaches.



Stellaria sitchana Sitka starwort

STSI3 Caryophyllaceae

HABIT: Forms clumps, stems up to 20 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves opposite, without petiole, mostly much longer than broad. Inflorescences mostly open cymes with several to many flowers, petals usually absent (white when present).

HABITAT: Wet meadows, river banks, thickets, open woods.



Streptopus amplexifolius twistedstalk

STAM2 Liliaceae

HABIT: Upright, branched, 10-40 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, clasping stem, with prominent veins. Flowers white, 1–2 per stalk, from leaf bases. Fruit red berries.

HABITAT: Forests.



Subularia aquatica awlwort

SUAQ Cruciferae

HABIT: Aquatic, often submerged, stem up to 4 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves linear and tapering to a sharp point. Flowers very small, petals white.

HABITAT: Ponds, streams, shores.



Swertia perennis star gentian

SWPE Gentianaceae

HABIT: Smooth, straight stem, simple, from woody base.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves at base long-stalked, elliptic to oblong, entire. Upper stem leaves not stalked, alternate or in pairs, somewhat pointed. Flowers 5-lobed and pointed, grayish-blue, mottled, variable in color, rarely white.

HABITAT: Subalpine meadows.



Thalictrum sparsiflorum fewflower meadowrue

THSP Ranunculaceae

HABIT: To 4 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, 2–3 times ternate. Flowers pinkish-white, no petals. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows.



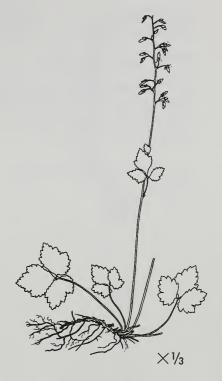
Tiarella trifoliata foamflower

TITR Saxifragaceae

HABIT: Perennial, 6-20 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, toothed, with 3 leaflets. Flowers white, in 1–2 leaved long-stemmed inflorescence. Fruit sugarscoop-like capsules.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, seeps, flood-plains.



Tofieldia coccinea northern asphodel

TOCO Liliaceae

HABIT: Tender, 2-4 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, slender, on 2 sides of stem. Stems not sticky. Flowers yellowish, in spike-like raceme. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Alpine tundra, heath, stony areas.



Tofieldia glutinosa TOGL2 sticky false-asphodel Liliaceae

HABIT: Stout, 6-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly basal, slender, on 2 sides of stem. Stems sticky. Flowers yellowish, in leafless to 1–bracted long-stemmed spike-like raceme. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, muskegs.



Trientalis europaea starflower

TREU Primulaceae

HABIT: Unbranched, upright, 2-6 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 5–6 in terminal whorl with much smaller, alternate stem leaves below. Flowers white, 1–3 per plant, solitary, terminal. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, muskegs, open areas.



Triglochin maritimum seaside arrowgrass

TRMA4 Juncaginaceae

HABIT: 5-35 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves all basal, fleshy, linear, from thick woody rhizome. Inflorescence a several to many-flowered raceme. Flower segments greenish or yellowish.

HABITAT: Muskegs, saline meadows, tidal flats, open woods.



Utricularia vulgaris common bladderwort

UTVU Lentibulariaceae

HABIT: Free floating.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves much dissected, the leaf segments hair like. Leaves all with bladders. Flowers 5–15, yellow.

HABITAT: Ponds and lakes.



Valeriana sitchensis Sitka valerian

VASI Valerianaceae

HABIT: 1-3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves mostly on stem, opposite, toothed, with 3–5 leaflets. Flowers white or lilac, in dense terminal inflorescence. Fruit achenes.

HABITAT: Moist places, tundra.



Veratrum viride false hellebore

VEVI Liliaceae

HABIT: 3-8 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves alternate, broad, with parallel veins, woolly pubescent underneath. Flowers yellowish-green, in terminal inflorescence with long, hanging branches. Fruit 3-parted capsules.

HABITAT: Meadows, moist places, shores in Prince William Sound.

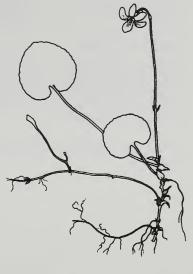


Viola epipsila marsh violet VIEP Violaceae

HABIT: 2-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, toothed, shiny, thin, with rounded tip. Flowers lilac, solitary, on long stem with pair of bracts, nodding, with short and thick spur. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Muskegs, steambanks, wet meadows, open areas.



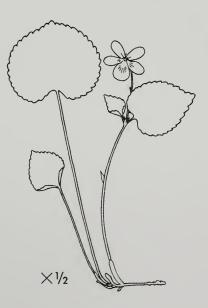
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Viola glabella yellow violet VIGL Violaceae

HABIT: 2-12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Basal leaves toothed, with pointed tip. Stem leaves opposite. Flowers yellow, solitary, nodding. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Moist forests, riverbanks.



Viola langsdorffii Alaska violet VILA6 Violaceae

HABIT: 2-10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves basal, toothed, with rounded tip. Flowers purple, solitary, on long stem with pair of bracts, nodding. Fruit capsules.

HABITAT: Steambanks, moist meadows, snowbeds.



GRAMINOIDS

SEDGES/CYPERACEAE

Stems triangular, 3–ranked (leaves on 3 sides of stem) and mostly solid. Fruit usually an achene, never a caryopsis. 1 bract below flowers. Anthers attached at base.

GRASSES/GRAMINEAE

Stems round or flattened, 2–ranked (leaves on 2 sides of stem), and hollow. Fruit usually a caryopsis. 2 bracts below flowers. Anthers attached centrally.

RUSHES/JUNCACEAE

Stems round and mostly solid, 3-ranked. Flowers usually have a well-developed perianth of six segments. Fruit capsular with numerous seeds. Petals and sepals present.

Agrostis aequivalvis arctic bentgrass

AGAE Gramineae

Refer to *Podagrostis aequivalis* in Hultén (1968).

HABIT: Perennial, rhizomatous, forming small tufts, to 30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Inflorescence a 2–6 inch long, loose, open panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Lemmas shorter than glumes, awnless.

HABITAT: Bogs and lake margins.

Agrostis alaskana Alaska bentgrass AGAL2 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, shortly rhizomatous, forming small to large tufts, to 30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Inflorescence a 1–6 inch long, narrow to open panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Lemmas shorter than glumes, awnless or awned.

HABITAT: Bogs, lake shores, sea beaches.



Arctagrostis latifolia polargrass

ARLA2 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, rhizomatous, tufted or solitary, 1–5 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Few basal leaves. Inflorescence a 2– to 26–inch long purplish open or short–branched panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Lemmas finely hairy, longer than glumes, awnless.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, gravel bars, tundra.



Arctophila fulva pendant grass

ARFU2 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, rhizomatous, 8-30 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Panicle open, the branches recurved or drooping, 2–9 inches long. Spikelets with 1–7 flowers, glumes shorter than lemmas.

HABITAT: Lake and pond margins, stream banks.



Calamagrostis canadensis CACA4 bluejoint reedgrass Gramineae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, to 6 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Inflorescence a 2–9 inch long open panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Florets with hairs longer than lemmas. Lemmas distinctly to barely shorter than glumes, with straight or curved dorsal awn, the awn shorter to slightly longer than glumes. Glumes usually purplish.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, shrublands, open areas, beaches.



Calamagrostis nutkaënsis Pacific reedgrass CANU Gramineae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, tufted, to 3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Inflorescence a 4–8 inch long narrow greenish or purplish open panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Florets with hairs not more than half as long as lemmas. Lemmas shorter than glumes, with awn straight or bent at base.

HABITAT: Wet places along coast.



Carex anthoxanthea arctic sedge

CAAN10 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Culms with bladeless sheaths at base, 2–5 inches tall, in rows from creeping, yellowish-brown rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Solitary spike, smooth, fusiform perigynia, yellowish-green.

HABITAT: Grassy slopes.

Carex aquatilis water sedge

CAAQ Cyperaceae

HABIT: Height to 30 inches. Cordlike rhizome, coarse, scaly, and brown or reddish-brown.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves as long as stem, or slightly shorter. Stiff, erect spikes, the upper sessile, the lower short-stalked. Scales brown or blackish with a pale midvein. Light colored perigynia.

HABITAT: Shallow water, marshes, and along rivers.





Carex lyngbyaei Lyngbye's sedge CALY3 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Stoloniferous, tufted to 3 feet tall. Triangular, smooth culm, longer than leaves.

KEY CHARACTERS: Flat leaves, light green and abruptly pointed. Male spikes 2–3, female 2–4. Inflorescences drooping, long-stalked. Lanceolate scales, long-pointed, dark reddish-brown with a lighter center. Ovate perigynia.

HABITAT: Coastal salt marshes, rarely inland.



Carex macrochaeta longawned sedge

CAMA11 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Loosely in tufts or dense clumps, with short runners to 3 feet tall. Culm longer than leaves, nearly smooth, with purplish-brown, bladeless sheaths, shredded at the base.

KEY CHARACTERS: Light green leaf blades. Oblong spikes 3–4, on thin, smooth stalks. Lanceolate scales with a light-colored midvein, excurrent into yellowish awn. Elliptic-lanceolate perigynia.

HABITAT: Wet places, common along coast, rarer inland.



Carex magellanica boreal bog sedge

CAMA12 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Rhizomatous and more or less casepitose, 4–30 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Roots with yellowish woolly hairs. Leaves flat, pale green, shorter than the culm. Terminal spike mostly staminate, the lateral 2–4 pistillate on short, drooping, stalks. Pistillate scales longer than the perigynia, lanceolate, coming to a long point.

HABITAT: Bogs, muskegs, lake shores.

Carex microchaeta smallawned sedge CAMI4 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Long, slender, fibrous rootstock. Culms with many basal leaves, 3–25 inches tall, the outer withered and brown.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves much shorter than culm. Spikes 2–4, in mature plants drooping. Acute scales, purplish-black with lighter midrib. Elliptic perigynia, blackishtinged.

HABITAT: Meadows, wet places, heaths to over 6900 feet.



Carex microglochin CAMI6 fewseeded bog sedge Cyperaceae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, $2\frac{1}{2}$ –8 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf sheaths brownish, lower leaf blades short, blades longer higher on culm. Spikes solitary, staminate flowers at tip. Pistillate scales shorter than the perigynia. Perigynia abruptly reflexed.

HABITAT: Marshy heath, lake shores, stream banks.



×4/3

Carex pauciflora fewflower sedge

CAPA19 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Loosely tufted with short, brown, scaly runners. Culm curved at base, 4–10 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Lowest sheath bladeless. Style projecting beyond the mouth of brownish-green perigynia.

HABITAT: Peat bogs, prefers acid soil.



Carex pluriflora manyflower sedge

CAPL6 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Long, scaly, purplish-black rhizome, fuzzy roots. Triangular culm, 4–15 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves about as long as culm, flat, grayish-green. Spikes 2–3, the terminal male, long-stalked, the lateral female, drooping on hairlike stalks, 10–20 flowered. Scales broadly ovate and pointed at the tip, black, with a paler midvien. Ovate to ovate-lanceolate perigynia, in age blackish-brown.

HABITAT: Bogs and margins of ponds along coast.



Carex sitchensis Sitka sedge

CASI3 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Very coarse, short, scaly rhizome, brown or purplish. Culms sharply triangular and smooth, to 40 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Male spikes 2–5, slender, erect, female strongly separate, slightly drooping, on long, slender stalks. Scales brownish, with pale center, pointed in age, distinctly thin and translucent at tip. Oval perigynia.

HABITAT: Swamps.



Deschampsia caespitosa tufted hairgrass

DECE Gramineae

Includes *D. beringensis* as defined by Hultén (1968).

HABIT: Tufted, up to and exceeding 3 feet tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Smooth leaves, mostly flat. Open, branched flower cluster, with hairlike, very scabrous branches. Awn mostly fixed close to base, slightly longer than floret. Fuzzy rachis. Flower cluster typically yellowish-green, but many are darker.

HABITAT: Muddy shores.



Eleocharis acicularis needle spikerush

ELAC Cyperaceae

HABIT: Caespitose with slender rhizomes and stolons, to 4 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves reduced to sheaths (no leaf blades). Spikes solitary.

HABITAT: Mud banks along streams, lakes, or ponds.



Eleocharis palustris common spikerush

ELPA3 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Stiff culms, to 25 inches tall, with reddish basal sheaths from stout, brownish—black rhizome.

KEY CHARACTERS: Lanceolate to ovate spike, brown with two basal scales, each clasping half of the culm.

HABITAT: Wet places, shallow water.



Elymus arenarius beach rye

ELARM Gramineae

HABIT: Culms from long, stout, creeping rootstocks.

KEY CHARACTERS: Old leaves at base persistent after withering. Leaves firm, flat, with edges rolled inward. Stiff spike, spikelets 3–7 flowered.

HABITAT: Sandy beaches, forming a belt along shore, rare on dunes inland.



Eriophorum angustifolium ERAN6 tall cottongrass Cyperaceae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, 4-35 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves usually flat below the middle, triangular channeled or folded above the middle. Spikes 2–10, at least some pendulous, scales grayish. Flower heads with long, silky, white bristles.

HABITAT: Muskegs, bogs, meadows, shallow ponds, alpine tundra, heath, open woods.



Eriophorum russeolum red cottongrass

ERRU2 Cyperaceae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, 8-30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves linear, channeled. Spikes solitary, erect, more or less round. Flower heads with long, silky, cinnamon to white bristles.

HABITAT: Bogs, lakeshores, muskegs, wet meadows, stream banks, alpine tundra, heath, open woods.



Festuca altaica rough fescue

FEAL Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, tufted, 8-32 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades folded. Inflorescence a 3–6 inch long open panicle. Spikelets with 2–6 flowers. Lemmas purplish to green, with short terminal awn.

HABITAT: Open forests, streambanks, gravel bars, rock outcrops.



Festuca rubra red fescue

FERU2 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, tufted, to 25 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades folded or rolled in from edges. Inflorescence a 1–4 inch long compact or open panicle, often to 1 side of stem. Spikelets purple to green, with 4–7 flowers. Lemmas usually with short terminal awn.

HABITAT: Muskegs, cliffs, beaches, tidal flats.



Glyceria pauciflora false mannagrass

GLPA6 Gramineae

HABIT: Rhizomatous, often rooting at the lower nodes, 10–40 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades flat, to ½ inches wide, rough-hairy on one or both sides. Panicle mostly 4–9 inches long, loose, branches ascending to spreading or drooping. Spikelets 3–7 flowered, lemmas with 5–7 prominent nerves.

HABITAT: Woods, thickets, marshes, meadows.



Hierochloë alpina alpine holygrass

HIAL3 Gramineae

HABIT: Tufted, shortly rhizomatous, ½-1 foot.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades rolled under at edge. Inflorescence a 1– to 2–inch long open panicle. Spikelets with 3 flowers. Stamen-bearing lemmas hairy, the first with short awn, the second with long, twisted and bent awn arising from middle of lemma. Fertile lemmas hairy at tip, awnless. Glumes about as long as spikelet.

HABITAT: Open forests, tundra.



Hordeum brachyantherum HOBR2 meadow barley Gramineae

HABIT: Tufted, 6-33 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades flat. Inflorescence an erect spike 1½–5 inches long, easily shattering when mature. Glumes all slender, awnlike. Central floret usually with an awn surpassing those of the glumes.

HABITAT: Open woods, tidal flats, beaches, bluffs, disturbed areas.



Juncus alpinus alpine rush

JUAL Juncaceae

HABIT: Perennial from short rhizomes, culms tufted, 4–18 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves 1–3 per stem. Leaf blades stiff, erect, round in cross-section. Inflorescence terminal, the branches ascending, heads commonly 5–many, 3–10 flowered.

HABITAT: Sandy banks and shores and moist sites near lakes, streams, and ponds.



Juncus arcticus arctic rush

JUAR2 Juncaceae

HABIT: Culms stout, thick, with yellowish-brown, shiny basal sheaths in rows from thick, horizontal, dark rootstocks.

KEY CHARACTERS: Contracted flower cluster, many–flowered, outer flower leaves linear–lanceolate, brown with greenish center, longer than inner.

HABITAT: Sandy shores, tidal marshes.

(subsp. *sitchensis*, subsp. *alaskanus* and subsp. *ater* similar, also found in wet places and river flats.)



Luzula multiflora common woodrush

LUMU2 Juncaceae

HABIT: Tufted, to 18 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves narrow, with closed sheaths. 2–4 stem leaves. Stem solid and round. Flowers crowded in a spike, with 3 petals and 3 sepals, all scale–like. Fruit 1–parted, 3–seeded capsules, longer or shorter than "petals and sepals."

HABITAT: Wet to dry forests and tundra.



Luzula parviflora LUPA4 smallflowered woodrush Juncaceae

HABIT: Tufted or solitary from rhizomes, 6–38 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves broad, with closed sheaths. 3–5 stem leaves. Stem solid and round. Flowers solitary at tips of branches of open inflorescence, with 3 petals and 3 sepals, all scale-like. Fruit 1–parted, 3–seeded capsules, at least as long as "petals and sepals."

HABITAT: Forests, meadows.



Luzula wahlenbergii Wahlenberg's woodrush LUWA Juncaceae

HABIT: Tufted and shortly rhizomatous, 4–16 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves blades flat. Inflorescence an open, nodding, or spreading panicle, the flowers solitary or in 2s or 3s at the end of hairlike branches.

HABITAT: Most sites in alpine tundra, heath, and open woods.



Phleum commutatum mountain timothy

PHCO9 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, tufted, 5-26 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Inflorescence a ½—to 2—inch long, short-branched, dense, spike-like, cylindrical panicle. Spikelets with 1 flower. Lemmas finely hairy, awnless. Glumes with hairs on central ridge and sides, with awn up to ¾ length of glume.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows, streambanks.



Poa lanata arctic bluegrass

POLA Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial from creeping rhizomes, 8–30 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves short, stiff. Panicle pyramid-shaped. Spikelets purplish, 3–6 flowered, lemmas densely hairy with woolly hairs in lower half.

HABITAT: Meadows.



Poa macrantha seashore bluegrass

POMA26 Gramineae

Not in Hultén (1968). See Pojar and Mackinnon (1994).

HABIT: Perennial with extensively creeping rhizomes and long runners, upright, 5–15 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves are stiff, inrolled, in dense tufts. Panicle compact, 1½–5 inches long. Spikelets 5–flowered, long (½ inches) relative to most species of Poa.

HABITAT: Coastal sand dunes.

Puccinellia nutkaensis Nootka alkaligrass PUNU Gramineae

HABIT: Tufted perennial, 8-25 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades flat to infolded. Panicles 1½–7½ inches long, the branches appressed-ascending to spreading. Spikelets mostly 4–6 flowered, green or purplish.

HABITAT: Seashores.



Puccinellia pumila dwarf alkaligrass PUPU Gramineae

HABIT: Tufted perennial, 3-8 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades infolded. Panicles 1–3 inches long, the branches usually appressed. Spikelets mostly 3–6 flowered, green or purplish.

HABITAT: Seashores.



Trichophorum caespitosum TRCA30 tufted bulrush Cyperaceae

HABIT: Perennial. Densely tufted. Smooth culms.

KEY CHARACTERS: Light green, erect or ascending. Numerous basal sheaths. Solitary spikelet, terminal, few-flowered and ovoid-oblong. Scales ovate and yellowish-brown, deciduous with 6 smooth bristles.

HABITAT: In acid bogs and on moist rocks in tundra, alpine mats.



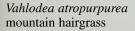
Trisetum spicatum spike trisetum

TRSP2 Gramineae

HABIT: Tufted, to 28 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves densely hairy. Inflorescence a ½— to 5 inch long open spike—like panicle. Spikelets with 2 or more flowers. Lemmas extend beyond or concealed by glumes, with bent and twisted awn arising from above middle.

HABITAT: Forests, meadows, streambanks, rock outcrops, alpine.



VAAT2 Gramineae

HABIT: Perennial, tufted, to 26 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf blades flat and broad. Inflorescence a 1–5 inch long open panicle. Spikelets with 2 or more flowers, green becoming purplish. Florets with hairs ½ as long as lemmas. Lemmas concealed by glumes, with twisted awn arising from above middle.

HABITAT: Open forests, meadows.





FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Athyrium filix–femina lady fern

ATFI Athyriaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, tufted, to 2 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Blades oval, 2–3 times pinnate. Stalk short, with scales.

HABITAT: Lowlands to 3600 feet. Moist forests, streambanks.



Blechnum spicant deer fern

BLSP Blechnaceae

HABIT: Evergreen, tufted, to 2 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Sterile blades narrowly oval, evergreen, leathery, with short stalk, forming circle around fertile blades. Fertile blades similar, but taller, deciduous, with narrower "leaflets" and longer stalk. Both types once pinnately divided.

HABITAT: Forests, streambanks, subalpine meadows, acid soil.



Cystopteris fragilis fragile fern

CYFR2 Athyriaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, tufted, to 1 foot.

KEY CHARACTERS: Blades 2–3 times pinnate. Stalk shorter than blade.

HABITAT: To 6000 feet. Open forests, talus slopes, rock crevices.



Dryopteris dilatata wood fern

DRDI2 Aspidiaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, tufted, 1-3 feet.

KEY CHARACTERS: Blade egg-shaped in outline, 3 times pinnate. Lower pair of leaflets triangular. Stalk shorter than blade, with scales.

HABITAT: Forests, streambanks.



Equisetum arvense common horsetail

EQAR Equisetaceae

HABIT: Upright, to 30 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem hollow, jointed, with 10–12 vertical ridges. Branches in whorls. Brown, branchless flowering stems appear in spring, fruiting head withers quickly.

HABITAT: Forests, lakeshores, disturbed areas, beaches, tundra.



Equisetum fluviatile swamp horsetail

EQFL Equisetaceae

HABIT: Rhizome glabrous, simple or branched stem, 10–40 inches tall, with wide central cavity.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem finely striate, smooth to the touch. Single branches or in irregular whorls at internodes. Green sheaths, with dark brown teeth. Obtuse, long—stalked cones.

HABITAT: Shallow water and marshy places in low altitudes.



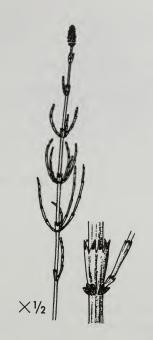
Equisetum palustre marsh horsetail

EQPA Equisetaceae

HABIT: Thin, smooth rhizome, lustrous, dark reddish-brown, stems 6–24 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Simple stem with 6 ridges, or with single to several thick branches of different lengths, top of stem usually lacking branches. First sheath of branches very short and dark brown, the next green. Long-stalked cone, obtuse and soon withering.

HABITAT: Wet or moist places, ponds. Rare along shores, more common inland.



Equisetum pratense meadow horsetail

EQPR Equisetaceae

HABIT: Rhizome nearly black, creeping, with scattered stems, 4–20 inches tall.

KEY CHARACTERS: Spring phase with light-brown stem and few short branches, later developing into whorls of branches. Summer phase with grayish-green, thin, striated, very rough stems. Green sheaths. Numerous slender branches, 3–angled. Obtuse, long-stalked cone, soon withering.

HABITAT: Common in woods of the interior.



Equisetum sylvaticum woodland horsetail

EQSY Equisetaceae

HABIT: Upright, to 28 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem hollow, jointed, with 10–18 vertical ridges. Branches in whorls, branches again branched. Brownish, branched flowering stems appear in spring, fruiting head withers quickly.

HABITAT: To subalpine. Open forests.



Equisetum variegatum northern horsetail

EQVA Equisetaceae

HABIT: Upright, to 15 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Stem hollow, jointed, with 5–12 vertical ridges, the central cavity to the diameter of the stem. Fruiting head with a prominent point at tip.

HABITAT: Muskegs, streambanks, woods, alpine tundra.



Gymnocarpium dryopteris GYDR oak fern Aspidiaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, solitary, 8–12 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Blades light green, ternate, the leaflets again 1–2 times pinnate.

HABITAT: Forests, thickets, streambanks, seeps.



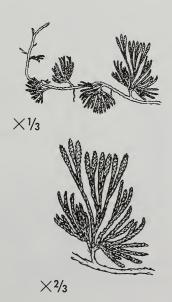
Lycopodium alpinum alpine clubmoss

LYAL3 Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Elongate stem creeping in surface of soil, rooting, whitish-green.

KEY CHARACTERS: Erect, blue-green branches, cylindrical or usually slightly flattened, with leaves in 4 rows. Sessile spikes, at tips of leafy branches.

HABITAT: Woods, meadows, and heaths. Common from lowlands to mountains. Absent from calcareous soil.



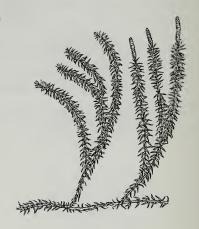
Lycopodium annotinum stiff clubmoss

LYAN2 Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Upright from creeping stem, to 8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in 8 rows along stem, 4 in a whorl, needle-like, toothed, stiff, with pointed tip. 1 terminal stalkless spore-bearing spike per stem.

HABITAT: Lowlands to lower alpine. Forests, heaths, muskegs.



Lycopodium clavatum running clubmoss

LYCL Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Ascending from creeping stem, to 8 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in 10 rows along stem, needle-like, lying flat on stem, or nearly so, with long hair at tip. 1 terminal fruiting stalk per stem with 1–3 spore–bearing spikes.

HABITAT: To lower alpine. Forests, rocky places, mostly on acid soil.



Lycopodium complanatum LYCO3 groundcedar Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Upright from creeping stem, to 14 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in 4 rows, scale-like, lying flat on stem. Stems flat, with cedar-like appearance. 1 terminal fruiting stalk per branch with 2 spore-bearing spikes.

HABITAT: Rarely above treeline. Dry forests.



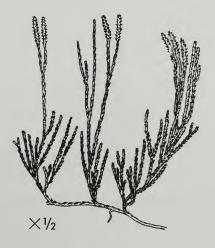
Lycopodium sabinifolium savinleaf groundpine

LYSAS3 Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Ascending, densely branching, stem creeping in surface soil, stems 1–5 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in 5–6 rows along stem, uniform. Spikes solitary at ends of elongate branches.

HABITAT: Alpine meadows, heath, woods.



Lycopodium selago fir clubmoss

LYSE Lycopodiaceae

HABIT: Ascending, tufted, 2-5 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves in 8 rows along stem, needle-like. Stems branch in pairs, with all branches reaching same height. Spore bearing leaves along stem, not in spikes.

HABITAT: Low elevation to alpine. Forests, heaths, muskegs, tundra.



Selaginella selaginoides club spikemoss

SESE Selaginellaceae

HABIT: Stems of two types, the vegetative ones prostrate and mat-forming, the fertile ones ascending. Stems 1–4 inches long.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaves spirally arranged, not bristle-tipped. Fruiting structure round in cross section, solitary.

HABITAT: Woods, thickets, heath.



Thelypteris limbosperma THLI9 maiden fern Thelypteridaceae

HABIT: Short, ascending rhizome, scaly.

KEY CHARACTERS: Leaf stalks grooved above, with dark base. Fronds forming crown, yellowish—green, glandular and covered with white down on veins below, abruptly pointed. Pinnae segments entire, blunt. Sori small, indusium lobed, glandular.

HABITAT: Open, rocky slopes, reaching subalpine region.



Thelypteris phegopteris beech fern

THPH Thelypteridaceae

HABIT: Deciduous, solitary, to 16 inches.

KEY CHARACTERS: Blade triangular, 1–2 times pinnate, hairy. Stalk hairy, scaly, twice as long as blade. Lower most leaflets droop.

HABITAT: Lowlands to lower alpine. Forests, meadows, streambanks, stony slopes.



APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Comparison between Hultén and PLANTS nomenclature.

Hultén Name	Code	PLANTS revised name	Code
Trees			
Betula kenaica	BEKE2	Betula papyrifera var. kenaica	BEPAK
Betula papyrifera	BEPA	Betula neoalaskana	BENE4
Shrubs			
	ALCRS	Alnus viridis ssp. sinuata	ALVIS
Alnus crispa ssp. sinuata Cassiope stelleriana	CAST33	Harrimanella stelleriana	HAST3
Cladothamnus pyrolaeflorus	CLPY3	Elliottia pyroliflorus	ELPY
Echinopanax horridum	ECHO2	Oplopanax horridus	OPHO
Ledum palustre	ECHO2	Opiopanax norrians	01110
ssp. groenlandicum	LEPAG	Ledum groenlandicum	LEGR
Oxycoccus microcarpus	OXMI3	Vaccinium oxycoccos	VAOX
Potentilla fruticosa	POFR4	Dasiphora floribunda	DAFL3
Salix arctica	SAAR4	Salix arctophila	SAAR6
Salix depressa ssp. rostrata	SADER	Salix bebbiana	SABE2
Spiraea beauverdiana	SPBE	Spiraea stevenii	SPST3
Vaccinium alaskensis	VAAL	Vaccinium ovalifolium	VAOV
Forbs			
Achillea borealis	ACBO	Achillea millefolium var. borealis	ACMIB
Apargidium boreale	APBO	Microseris borealis	MIBO
Aruncus sylvester	ARSYA	Aruncus dioicus var. acuminatus	ARDIA
Callitriche verna	CAVE2	Callitriche palustris	CAPA52
Cardamine umbellata	CAUM3	Cardamine oligosperma var. kamtschatica	CAOLK
Cicuta mackenzieana	CIMA	Cicuta virosa	CIVI5
Conioselinum chinense	COCHP	Conioselinum gmelinii	COGM
Epilobium adenocaulon	EPAD	Epilobium ciliatum ssp. ciliatum	EPCIC
Epilobium angustifolium	EPAN2	Chamerion angustifolium	CHANA2
		ssp. angustifolium	
Epilobium glandulosum	EPGL4	Epilobium ciliatum ssp. glandulosum	EPCIG
Epilobium latifolium	EPLA	Chamerion latifolium	CHLA13
Fauria crista-galli	FACR	Nephrophyllidium crista-galli	NECR2
Heracleum lanatum	HELA4	Heracleum maximum	HEMA80
Lathyrus maritimus	LAMA3	Lathyrus japonicus var. maritimus	LAJAM
Myosotis alpestris	MYAL	Myosotis asiatica	MYAL
Nuphar polysepala	NUPO2	Nuphar lutea ssp. polysepala	NULUP
Petasites hyperboreus	PEHY5	Petasites frigidus var. nivalis	PEFRN

Platanthera saccata	PLSA6	Platanthera stricta	PLST4
Potamogeton filiformis	POFI2	Stuckenia filiformis ssp. filiformis	STFIF
Potamogeton pectinatus	POPE6	Stuckenia pectinatus	STPE12
Potamogeton perfoliatus	POPER5	Potamogeton richardsonii	PORI2
Potentilla egedii	POEG	Argentina egedii ssp. egedii	AREGE
Potentilla palustris	POPA14	Comarum palustre	COPA28
Pyrola secunda	PYSE	Orthilia secunda	ORSE
Rumex fenestratus	RUFE3	Rumex aquaticus var. fenestratus	RUAQF
Sanguisorba stipulata	SAST11	Sanguisorba canadensis	SACA14
Saxifraga punctata	SAPU6	Saxifraga nelsoniana	SANEN
		ssp. nelsoniana	
Sedum rosea	SEROI3	Rhodiola integrifolia	RHINI
		ssp. integrifolia	
Sparganium minimum	SPMI	Sparganium natans	SPNA
Stellaria sitchana	STSI3	Stellaria borealis ssp. sitchana	STBOS
Utricularia vulgaris	UTVU	Utricularia macrorhiza	UTMA
G			
Graminoids	4.6741.0	4	ACEX
Agrostis alaskana	AGAL2	Agrostis exarata	AGEX
Carex sitchensis	CASI3	Carex aquatilis var. dives	CAAQD
Elymus arenarius	ELARM	Leymus mollis ssp. mollis	LEMOM2
Glyceria pauciflora	GLPA6	Torreyochloa pallida var. pauciflora	TOPAP3
Juncus alpinus	JUAL	Juncus alpinoarticulatus ssp. nodulosus	JUALN
Phleum commutatum	PHCO9	Phleum alpinum	PHAL2
Poa lanata	POLA	Poa arctica ssp. lanata	POARL4
Puccinellia pumila	PUPU	Puccinellia tenella ssp. alaskana	PUTEA
т исстени ринии	1010	r acementa tenena ssp. ataswata	TOTE
Ferns and Fern Allies			
Dryopteris dilatata	DRDI2	Dryopteris expansa	DREX2
Lycopodium sabinifolium	LYSAS3	Lycopodium sitchense	LYSI
Lycopodium selago	LYSE	Huperzia selago var. selago	HUSES
Thelypteris limbosperma	THLI9	Thelypteris quelpaertensis	THQU2
Thelypteris phegopteris	THPH	Phegopteris connectilis	PHCO24

Appendix 2. Comparison among white, Lutz, and Sitka spruce.

SITKA SPRUCE	sharp pointed flattened, keeled dark green %—1 inch long white bands on top	light to dark brown stout	short-stalked 2-3% inches long	light orange rounded toothed stiff relatively long	white w/ brown dots foul odor
LUTZ SPRUCE	slightly 4-angled whitish upper surface		intermediate or small	light brown toothed relatively short	
WHITE SPRUCE	blunt tipped 4-angled blue-green ½-¾ inch long white lines on all sides mass on top near end of twig skunk-like odor	orange–brown slender skunk–like odor	nearly stalkless 1%–2% inches long	shiny light brown straigh toothless flexible relatively short	white smells sweet
CHARACTER	needles	twigs	cones	scales	bark (inner)

Appendix 3. Comparison between western and mountain hemlock.

WESTERN HEMLOCK		curved blunt tip blue-green white lines on both sides	stout -brown light reddish-brown	1–3 inches long cylindrical purplish, turning brown	reddish-brown to gray-brown gray to dark-brown
CHARACTER	needles on 2 sides of twigs flattened on both sides	straight round tip dark green 2 white bands underneath	flexible twigs dark reddish–brown	cones %–1 inch long elliptic brown	bark (outer) reddish-brow

Appendix 4.

Comparison among stink, trailing black, northern black, and northern red currant.

CHARACTER	STINK	TRAILING BLACK	NORTHERN BLACK	NORTHERN RED
habit	ascending to upright	decumb., vine-like, upright	upright	prostrate to upright
leaf lobes	5–7, acute	5, triangular	3–5, rounded	3-5, triangular
flowers: number 15-50/raceme	15–50/raceme	6-20/raceme	5-12/raceme	6–20/raceme
racemes	3–12 inches	4–6 inches	1–2½ inches	2–4 inches
petals	white, purple, or greenish	red to purplish	white	purple
sepals	hairy	hairy on back	white pubescent	hairless
ovary	hairy, with not- stalked glands	pubescent, with stalked glands	with stalkless yellow glands	with no hairs or glands
fruit	black with bloom with stalkless glands	purplish-black with bloom with stalked glands	black with bloom with stalkless yellow glands	bright red and translucen with no hairs or glands
fetid odor	entire plant	crushed berries	crushed leaves and berries	no odor

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Appendix 5. Comparison between Alaska and early blueberry.

CHARACTER	ALASKA BLUEBERRY	EARLY BLUEBERRY
leaves	few short glandular hairs on midvein underneath toothless or toothed up to entire length uniform size	hairless toothless or toothed up to bottom % largest at tips of twigs
flowers	broader than long bronzy–pink to white appear after leaves half developed styles longer than petals	longer than broad pink appear before or with leaves styles shorter than petals
fruit	blue-black without bloom stalk straight, often longer than % inch somewhat enlarged below fruit	bluish or blue-black with whitish bloom stalk curved, usually shorter than % in

an % inches

Appendix 6. Glossary.

ACHENE - a small, dry, hard, one-seeded fruit.

ALTERNATE – describes the arrangement of leaves on a stem, one per node, with leaves alternating on either side of the stem.

ANTHER – the portion of the stamen that contains the pollen.

ASCENDING - curving upward.

AWN - slender, generally terminal bristle.

AXIL - the upper angle formed between the axis and an organ that arises from it.

BASAL - at or pertaining to the base.

BEAK - a prominent elongate tip.

BIENNIAL - living for two growing seasons.

BLADE – the expanded part of a leaf.

BLOOM – a whitish, waxy, powdery covering.

BRACT – a small leaf from the base of which a flower or a floral axis arises; also a small leaf just below the flower or flower cluster.

BRISTLE - a stiff hair.

CAESPITOSE - growing in dense, low tufts.

CAPSULE – a dry fruit that splits open at maturity. Made of more than one carpel.

CARYOPSIS – in grasses, an achene-like fruit in which the pericarp is fused to the seed.

CATKIN - a scaly spike bearing apetalous, unisexual flower.

COMPOUND LEAF – a leaf divided into two or more parts or leaflets.

COROLLA - the petals of a flower, collectively.

CULM – the type of hollow or pithy slender stem found in grasses or sedges.

CYME – a flat topped or convex flower cluster, with central flowers opening first.

DECIDUOUS - falling after completion of the normal function; not persistant.

DECUMBENT – lying flat but tending to curve upward at the end.

DIVISION – segments of a leaf separated by a notch cut almost but not all the way to the base or midvein.

DRUPE – a fleshy one-seeded fruit with the seed enclosed in a hard shell, such as a plum.

ENTIRE – pertaining to margins, not toothed or otherwise cut.

EVERGREEN - remaining green throughout the year, not deciduous.

EXCURRENT - projecting beyond the edge of.

FLORET – in grasses, the flower parts with the subtending bracts (lemma and palea).

FOLLICLE – a dry fruit that splits open along one seam.

FROND - a leaf, especially of a fern.

GLABROUS – smooth, devoid of pubescence or hair in any form.

GLAND – a secreting surface or structure; an appendage having the general appearance of such an organ.

GLUME – one of the two bracts found at the base of a grass spikelet.

HEAD – a dense spherical or flat-topped inflorescence of stalkless flowers clustered on a common receptacle.

HIP – the fleshy fruit of the rose.

HYBRID – a plant whose parent plants are two different species or subspecies.

INFLORESCENCE - a cluster of flowers.

KEEL – a central dorsal ridge.

LEAFLET – a single division of a compound leaf.

LEMMA – the outer of the two bracts subtending the individual flowers in grass spikelets.

LIGULE – the showy part of the outer ring of flowers of the Composite Family

(Compositae).

LOBED - bearing lobes; loosely used, but usually cut in not over halfway to the base or midvein.

LYRE-SHAPED – pinnatifid, with the terminal lobe considerably larger thatn the others.

NEEDLE – a modified leaf that is long, slender, rather rigid and more or less sharp at the apex.

NODE – the place on the stem where leaves or branches normally originate.

OPPOSITE – situated directly across from each other at the same node.

OVARY – the seed–bearing part of the flower.

PALEA – the inner of the two bracts subtending the individual flowers in grass spikelets.

PALMATE – hand shaped, resembling the open, spread hand. The lobes or divisions attached at the base.

PANICLE – a branched inflorescence with the youngest flowers borne near the tip.

PEDUNCLE – a flower-stalk supporting a cluster of flowers, or a single flower when the pedicle is very long.

PERENNIAL - living for more than two years.

PERIANTH – the floral envelope consisting of sepals and petals.

PERICARP - the wall of the fruit, or seed-vessel.

PERIGYNIA – the pistil and surrounding bract of sedges.

PERIGYNIUM – the inflated saclike organ, or utricle, surrounding the pistil in carex.

PETALS – usually, the colorful part of the flower above the sepals.

PETIOLE - the leaf stalk.

PINNATE – leaflets arranged along each side of a common stem of a compound leaf.

PISTIL - the seed-bearing organ of a flower, consisting when complete of an ovary, style, and stigma.

PRICKLE - a small, sharp, slender growth.

PROSTRATE - lying flat on the ground.

RACEME – an inflorescence with a central stem and stalked flowers, the youngest flowers at the tip.

RACHIS - axis of a compound leaf, or a spike or raceme.

RHIZOME – a prostrate elongated underground stem.

ROSETTE – a cluster of spreading or radiating basal leaves.

SCABROUS - rough to the touch.

SACCATE - bag-shaped; pouchy

SCALE - any thin, dry, membranaceous structure.

SEPAL – one of the parts of the outer whorl of the flower, usually resembling a small green leaf, but may be similar in appearance to the petals.

SESSILE - without a stalk.

SHEATH – the part of the leaf that envelops the stem.

 $SILIQUE-a\ narrow,\ many-seeded\ capsule,\ usually\ more\ than\ 4\ times\ as\ long\ as\ broad.$

SOLITARY - one per stalk.

SPIKE – an inflorescence with a central stem and stalkless flowers.

SPIKELET – in grasses, the basic unit of the inflorescence in which the floret(s) are found at least partially covered by the two basal bracts (glumes).

SPINE – a sharp woody or rigid growth.

SPORANGIA – a structure within which spores are produced.

SPREADING – with nearly prostrate stems or branches.

SPUR – a tubular or sac-like projection from a blossom as of a petal or sepal; it usually contains a nectar-secreting gland.

STAMEN – the pollen–bearing organ of the flower.

STOLON – a trailing shoot above ground, rooting at the nodes, also called a runner.

STYLE – a prolongation of the ovary commonly bearing the stigma.

TERMINAL – arising from the end of the stem.

TERNATE - with 3 leaflets.

UMBEL – an inflorescence, more or less flattopped, in which all of the pedicels arise from the same point, like the ribs of an umbrella.

WHORL – an arrangement of three or more leaves at one node on the stem.

Appendix 7. Common names index

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black spruce	Picea mariana	6
Kenai birch	Betula kenaica	4
Lutz spruce	Picea X lutzii	6
mountain hemlock	Tsuga mertensiana	10
paper birch	Betula papyrifera	4
quaking aspen	Populus tremuloides	8
Scouler willow	Salix scouleriana	9
Sitka spruce	Picea sitchensis	7
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Aleutian mountain heath	Phyllodoce aleutica	26
alpine azalea	Loiseleuria procumbens	23
alpine bearberry	Arctostaphylos alpina	15
arctic willow	Salix arctica	32
Barclay willow	Salix barclayi	32
Beauverd spiraea	Spiraea beauverdiana	39
Bebb willow	Salix depressa subsp. rostrata	33
bog blueberry	Vaccinium uliginosum	41
bog cranberry	Oxycoccus microcarpus	25
bog rosemary	Andromeda polifolia	14
bristly black currant	Ribes lacustre	28
buffaloberry	Shepherdia canadensis	37
common juniper	Juniperus communis	21
copperbush	Cladothamnus pyrolaeflorus	18
creeping sibbaldia	Sibbaldia procumbens	38
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dwarf blueberry	Vaccinium caespitosum	40
early blueberry	Vaccinium ovalifolium	41
elderberry	Sambucus racemosa	37
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lowbush cranberry	Vaccinium vitis–idaea	42
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northern red currant	Ribes triste	29
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Sitka alder	Alnus crispa subsp. sinuata	13
Sitka mountain-ash	Sorbus sitchensis	39
Sitka willow	Salix sitchensis	36
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Steller's cassiope	Cassiope stelleriana	17
stink currant	Ribes bracteosum	27
sweetgale	Myrica gale	25
tealeaf willow	Salix pulchra	35
thinleaf alder	Alnus incana subsp. tenuifolia	13
trailing black currant	Ribes laxiflorum	29
twinflower	Linnaea borealis	22
undergreen willow	Salix commutata	33
western mountain-ash	Sorbus scopulina	38
white mountain-avens	Dryas octopetala	19
	•	

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Alaska violet	Viola langsdorffii	120
Aleutian mugwort	Artemisia tilesii	51
alpine bistort	Polygonum viviparum	94
alpine heuchera	Heuchera glabra	74
alpine sweetvetch	Hedysarum alpinum	73
alpine willow herb	Epilobium anagalladifolium	62
apargidium	Apargidium boreale	49
arctic stitchwort	Minuartia arctica	83
arctic sweet coltsfoot	Petasites hyperboreus	91
arrowleaf groundsel	Senecio triangularis	108
awlwort	Subularia aquatica	113
baneberry	Actaea rubra	46
beach pea	Lathyrus maritimus	77
beach lovage	Ligusticum scoticum	78
beach strawberry	Fragaria chiloensis	67
bent-leaved angelica	Angelica genuflexa	47
blackish oxytrope	Oxytropis nigrescens	87
bluebells of Scotland	Campanula rotundifolia	55
blunt-fruit sweet-cicely	Osmorhiza depauperata	86
boreal bog orchid	Platanthera dilitata	93
boreal sagebrush	Artemisia arctica	51
broadleaf arnica	Arnica latifolia	50
buckbean	Menyanthes trifoliata	82
bunchberry	Cornus canadensis	60
calthaleaf avens	Geum calthifolium	72
capitate lousewort	Pedicularis capitata	88
chiming bells	Mertensia paniculata	83
chocolate lily	Fritillaria camschatcensis	67
claspingleaf pondweed	Potamogeton perfoliatus	96
cloudberry	Rubus chamaemorus	104
common alplily	Lloydia serotina	80
common bladderwort	Utricularia vulgaris	117
common butterwort	Pinguicula vulgaris	92
common marestail	Hippuris vulgaris	75
cow parsnip	Heracleum lanatum	73
curled starwort	Stellaria crispa	112
deerberry	Maianthemum dilatatum	82
deer cabbage	Fauria crista–galli	66
dwarf fireweed	Epilobium latifolium	64
enchanter's nightshade	Circaea alpina	57

false hellebore	Veratrum viride	118
fern leaf goldenthread	Coptis aspleniifolia	59
fewflower meadowrue	Thalictrum sparsiflorum	114
fiveleaf bramble	Rubus pedatus	104
fleshy starwort	Stellaria crassifolia	111
floating burreed	Sparganium angustifolium	109
floating pondweed	Potamogeton natans	95
foamflower	Tiarella trifoliata	115
forget-me-not	Myosotis alpestris	85
fourleaf marestail	Hippuris tetraphylla	75
fragrant bedstraw	Galium triflorum	69
fringed willow herb	Epilobium glandulosum	63
goatsbeard	Aruncus sylvester	52
goosetongue plantain	Plantago maritima	92
greenish wintergreen	Pyrola chlorantha	99
ground-cone	Boschniakia rossica	52
grove sandwort	Moehringia lateriflora	84
heart-leaf twayblade	Listera cordata	79
heart-leaved saxifrage	Saxifraga punctata	106
hooded ladies' tresses	Spiranthes romanzoffiana	110
Hornemann's willow herb	Epilobium hornemannii	64
Labrador lousewort	Pedicularis labradorica	89
largeflowered wintergreen	Pyrola grandiflora	100
large-leaf avens	Geum macrophyllum	72
Langsdorf's lousewort	Pedicularis langsdorfii	90
larkspur	Delphinium glaucum	61
little western bittercress	Cardamine umbellata	55
liverleaf wintergreen	Pyrola asarifolia	99
lyreleaved rockcress	Arabis lyrata	50
longbract frog orchid	Coeloglossum viride	58
Mackenzie's water hemlock	Cicuta mackenzieana	57
marsh fivefinger	Potentilla palustris	97
marsh violet	Viola epipsila	119
monkshood	Aconitum delphinifolium	45
mountain harebell	Campanula lasiocarpa	54
nagoonberry	Rubus arcticus	103
narcissus anemone	Anemone narcissiflora	46
Nootka lupine	Lupinus nootkatensis	80
northern asphodel	Tofieldia coccinea	115
northern bedstraw	Galium boreale	68
northern burreed	Sparganium hyperboreum	109
northern comandra	Geocaulon lividum	71
northern geranium	Geranium erianthum	71

northern goldenrod	Solidago multiradiata	108
northern grass-of-parnassas	Parnassia palustris	88
northern starwort	Stellaria calycantha	111
northern twayblade	Listera borealis	<i>78</i>
northern waterstarwort	Callitriche hermaphroditica	53
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Pacific silverweed	Potentilla egedii	97
pale gentian	Gentiana glauca	70
pretty shooting star	Dodecatheon pulchellum	61
prickly saxifrage	Saxifraga tricuspidata	107
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sago pondweed	Potamogeton pectinatus	96
seacoast angelica	Angelica lucida	48
seaside arrowgrass	Triglochin maritimum	117
seaside buttercup	Ranunculus cymbalaria	101
seaside sandplant	Honckenya peploides	76
shortspike watermilfoil	Myriophyllum sibiricum	85
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Sitka burnet	Sanguisorba stipulata	105
Sitka starwort	Stellaria sitchana	112
Sitka sweet-cicely	Osmorhiza purpurea	87
Sitka valerian	Valeriana sitchensis	118
skunk cabbage	Lysichiton americanum	81
slender bog orchid	Platanthera saccata	93
slenderfruit willow herb	Epilobium leptocarpum	65
slender-leaved pondweed	Potamogeton filiformis	95
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smallflower lousewort	Pedicularis parviflora	90
snowline wintergreen	Pyrola minor	100
spring waterstarwort	Callitriche verna	53
spotted gentian	Gentiana platypetala	70
starflower	Trientalis europaea	116
star gentian	Swertia perennis	114
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swamp gentian	Gentiana douglasiana	69
swamp willow herb	Epilobium palustre	65
tall Jacob's-ladder	Polemonium acutiflorum	94
tall fireweed	Epilobium angustifolium	63

threepetal bedstraw	Galium trifidum	68
trifoliate goldenthread	Coptis trifolia	60
tufted loosestrife	Lysimachia thyrsiflora	81
twisted stalk	Streptopus amplexifolius	113
western columbine	Aquilegia formosa	49
yarrow	Achillea borealis	45
yellow anemone	Anemone richardsonii	47
yellowdot saxifrage	Saxifraga bronchialis	106
yellow marsh-marigold	Caltha palustris	54
yellow pondlily	Nuphar polysepala	86
yellow rattle	Rhinanthus minor	103
yellow violet	Viola glabella	119
wedgeleaf primrose	Primula cuneifolia	98
western buttercup	Ranunculus occidentalis	102
western dock	Rumex fenestratus	105
western hemlock-parsley	Conioselinum chinense	59
western twayblade	Listera caurina	79
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white water crowfoot	Ranunculus trichophyllus	102
whorled lousewort	Pedicularis verticillata	91
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arctic bentgrass	Agrostis aequivalvis	124
arctic rush	Juncus arcticus	138
arctic sedge	Carex anthoxanthea	127
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boreal bog sedge	Carex magellanica	129
common spikerush	Eleocharis palustris	133
common woodrush	Luzula multiflora	138
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mountain timothy	Phleum commutatum	140
needle spikerush	Eleocharis acicularis	132
Nootka alkaligrass	Puccinellia nutkaensis	141
Pacific reedgrass	Calamagrostis nutkaënsis	126
pendant grass	Arctophila fulva	125
polargrass	Arctagrostis latifolia	125
red cottongrass	Eriophorum russeolum	134
red fescue	Festuca rubra	135
rough fescue	Festuca altaica	135
seashore bluegrass	Poa macrantha	141
Sitka sedge	Carex sitchensis	131
smallflowered woodrush	Luzula parviflora	139
smallawned sedge	Carex microchaeta	129
spike trisetum	Trisetum spicatum	143
tall cottongrass	Eriophorum angustifolium	134
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tufted buffusii tufted hairgrass	Deschampsia caespitosa	132
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water sedge	Carex aquatilis	127
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club spikemoss	Selaginella selaginoides	154
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lady fern	Athyrium filix–femina	146
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wood fern	
woodland horsetail	

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Appendix 8. Suggested reading.

I. Southcentral and Southeast Alaska Plant Community Guides:

Boggs, K. 2000. Classification of community types, successional sequences, and landscapes of the Copper River Delta, Alaska. General Technical Report PNW–469, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, OR. 244 p.

DeMeo, T., J. Martin, and R.A. West. 1992. Forest plant association management guide, Ketchikan Area, Tongass National Forest. Alaska Region publication R10–MB–210, USDA Forest Service, Juneau, AK. 405 p.

DeVelice, R.L., C.J. Hubbard, K. Boggs, S. Boudreau, M. Potkin, T. Boucher, and C. Wertheim. 1999. Plant community types of the Chugach National Forest: southcentral Alaska. Alaska Region Technical Publication R10–TP–76, USDA Forest Service, Chugach National Forest, Anchorage, AK. 375 pp.

Martin, J.R., S.J. Trull, W.W. Brady, R.A. West, and J.M. Downs. 1995. Forest plant association management guide, Chatham Area, Tongass National Forest. Alaska Region Technical Publication R10–TP–57. USDA Forest Service, Juneau, AK.

Pawuk, W.H. and E. Kissinger. 1988. Preliminary forest plant associations of the Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest. Alaska Region Technical Publication R10–TP–72. USDA Forest Service, Juneau, AK. 126 p.

Shephard, M.E. 1995. Plant community ecology and classification of the Yakutat foreland, Alaska. Alaska Region Technical Publication R10–TP–56. USDA Forest Service, Juneau, AK. 214 p. (plus appendices)

II. Plant Books:

Borchers, S.L. and C. Wertheim. 1992. Forest plant identification guide: Chugach National Forest. Alaska Region publication R10–MB–189, USDA Forest Service, Juneau, AK. 124 p.

Hultén, E. 1968. Flora of Alaska and neighboring territories: A manual of the vascular plants. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA. 1008 p.

LaBounty, K. and J.R. Martin. 1987. Plant identification guide for forested sites of the Tongass National Forest. USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, Sitka, AK. 71 p.

II. Plant Books, continued:

Pojar, J. and A. MacKinnon. 1994. Plants of the Pacific Northwest coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia & Alaska. Lone Pine Publishing, Vancouver, British Columbia. 527 p.

Robuck, O. Wayne. 1985. The common plants of the muskegs of southeast Alaska. Pacific Northwest Research Station Miscellaneous Publication. USDA Forest Service, Portland, OR. 131 p.

Robuck, O. Wayne. 1989. Common alpine plants of southeast Alaska. Pacific Northwest Research Station Miscellaneous Publication. USDA Forest Service, Portland, OR. 207 p.

Viereck, L.A. and E.L. Little, Jr. 1972. Alaska trees and shrubs. USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook No. 410. Washington, D.C. 265 p.

Vitt, D.H., J.E. Marsh, and R.B. Bovey. 1988. A photographic field guide to the mosses, lichens, and ferns of northwest North America. Lone Pine Publishing, Edmonton, Alberta. 296 p.

Welsh, S.L. 1974. Anderson's flora of Alaska and adjacent parts of Canada. Brigham Young University Press, Provo, Utah. 724 p.

III. Scientific Nomeclature and Species Codes:

USDA, NRCS 1999. The PLANTS database (http://plants.usda.gov /plants). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874–4490 USA.





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